

FBIS

DAILY REPORT

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REACTION CONTINUES TO U.S. NUCLEAR TEST

More on Korniyenko Briefing

LD151509 Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 14 Apr 86

[Excerpts] [Announcer] Right now, an account of a press conference held in Moscow on Monday in connection with the latest American nuclear tests. The Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman answered questions from members of the press gathered at the press center.

This is Lutz Lehmann from West German television first program. The general secretary has said that he's going to meet Mr Reagan under no conditions [as heard] but he spoke about the spirit of Geneva and this spirit of Geneva should be reanimated. I would like to know if you see a possibility for the general secretary to meet Mr Reagan under the conditions of today.

[Korniyenko in Russian, fading into translation] The Soviet position on a summit remains the same as it was outlined just recently by Mikhail Gorbachev said the Soviet deputy foreign minister. The Soviet leader favors another summit without any preconditions. But such a meeting ought to yield practical results in the disarmament sphere. The West German television correspondent was quite right to highlight the need for an appropriate political climate preceding the summit and such a climate has yet to be created.

[Announcer] Another question was put to Marshal Akhromeyev, the chief of the Soviet General Staff, also present at the press conference.

(?Phillip Taubman) from THE NEW YORK TIMES. Was there a point in recent months in which you thought that the political gains were not worth the military costs and did you recommend perhaps ceasing the moratorium some time in the last few months?

[Akhromeyev in Russian, fading into translation] The Soviet people, be they soldiers or civilians, all want less military tension, a stop to the arms race and a more stable future, said Marshal Akhromeyev. This desire of the people is fully shared by the Soviet Government and by the Soviet Armed Forces and their command. We are aware of the fact that the Soviet military are pictured in the West as professing ideas contrary to those publicly stated by the Soviet Government. This is simply not true. The Soviet General Staff had never expressed any desire whatsoever to end the moratorium, despite certain costs in military terms. The ultimate decision to end the self-imposed ban was forced on us by the American blatant sabotage, not by Soviet military lobbying.

[Announcer] The following question was addressed to the Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Georgiy Korniyenko.

Stuart Loory, Cable News Network. Mr Korniyenko, how open is the Soviet offer to resume its moratorium if the United States is willing enter into discussions? In other words would the Soviet Union be willing to enter into discussions on a moratorium after the United States completes its modernization and improvement program on its nuclear weapons?

[Korniyenko in Russian, fading into translation] The very word moratorium, said Georgiy Korniyenko, both in English and in Russian means a stop to all nuclear testing and not the completion of a nuclear modernization program. I think Mr Loory should know this and his question seems to be rather misleading.

Dubinin's News Conference

LD121115 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0324 GMT 12 Apr 86

[Text] New York, 12 Apr (TASS) -- The statement the Soviet Government issued in connection with the USA's carrying out a nuclear explosion on 10 April has aroused a resounding response at the United Nations. As Yu. Dubinin, the USSR's permanent representative at the United Nations stated at a press conference it is appropriate to recall within UN walls that the USSR's declaration and continuation of the unilateral moratorium on any nuclear explosions took into account of the frequent UN General Assembly appeals approved by the votes of almost all UN members. The USSR will persist in conducting a principled policy aimed at banning the testing of nuclear weapons and concluding the appropriate international treaty. This policy is in accord with the hopes of the peoples and is totally in harmony with UN decisions.

Yu. Dubinin expressed the hope that the urgent problem of ceasing nuclear tests would continue to occupy an important place in UN activity and in the personal efforts of its secretary general. The USSR confirms its proposal on immediately starting talks in any form on the total banning of nuclear weapons tests: within the framework of the Geneva disarmament conference, the trilateral talks among the USSR, United States and Great Britain, or bilateral Soviet-U.S. talks. Moreover, the USSR is ready to undertake, jointly with other countries, the necessary steps to extend the Moscow treaty banning nuclear weapons tests in the atmosphere, in space, and underwater to include underground tests, also, as the 40th session of the UN General Assembly had urged the USSR's permanent representative stressed.

U.S. Planning Another Test

LD160644 Moscow TASS in English 0631 GMT 16 Apr 86

[Text] Washington April 16 TASS -- The United States is going to set off yet another nuclear explosion within the next few days, THE WASHINGTON POST reported today, quoting well-informed sources.

It will be the third nuclear test this year.

Riding roughshod over international public opinion, the Washington administration, according to press reports, intends to stage a total of at least 15 nuclear blasts this year.

The testing program is connected in many ways with the development of a partially space-based multi-tier missile defense.

Verification Stand Elaborated

PM151121 Moscow KRSNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 15 Apr 86 Second Edition p 3

[Colonel V. Larionov "Expert's Opinion": "Not an End in Itself but a Reasonable Measure"]

[Text] The CPSU Program approved by the 27th party congress outlined a broad package of constructive measures aimed at ending the arms race, at disarmament, and at ensuring peace and security. The CPSU tries to ensure that questions of limiting arms and averting the threat of war are solved by means of honest and strictly observed accords based on the sides' equality and identical security and that any attempts to hold talks "from a position of strength" and to use them as cover for an arms build-up are ruled out.

There is no weapon that the Soviet Union would not be prepared to limit or ban on a mutual basis involving effective verification [kontrol].

The program for eliminating nuclear and other kinds of mass destruction weapons advanced in the CPSU Central Committee general secretary's statement of 15 January this year attaches great, indeed fundamental significance to the question of verification [kontrol]. The Soviet Union has advocated and now advocates that comprehensive inspection [proverka] of the fulfillment of all possible agreements in this sphere be the most important element of the disarmament process and that any agreements on limiting arms be reliably verified [kontrolirovat].

The Soviet Union's approach to questions of verification [kontrol] is based on readiness to take any reasonable measures to help limit the arms race. At the same time, of course, verification [kontrol] is not an end in itself. As was emphasized at the 27th CPSU Congress, "disarmament without verification [kontrol] is impossible, but neither does verification [kontrol] without disarmament make sense." Hence an important practical conclusion: The extent and the methods of verification [kontrol] must correspond to the nature and extent of specific accords. Specific verification [kontrol] methods must be chosen in each case with regard to what practical measures will be taken to limit arms.

What are the possible methods of ensuring reliable verification [kontrol] of the implementation of the disarmament measures proposed by the Soviet Union?

Above all, there is the use of the sides' existing national technical means of verification [kontrol]. Experience of the use of these means to verify [proverka] the treaties and agreements concluded earlier confirms their incontestable priority. Such means of verification [kontrol] are continuously being improved, and their potential is growing.

If necessary, additional measures can be provided to help enhance the effectiveness of verification [kontrol] by national technical means. These could be, for example, agreed notification on questions connected with the fulfillment of accords and the exchange of quantitative data on arms provided for when drawing up agreements envisages that special procedures will be drawn up for the destruction of nuclear weapons and also for the dismantling, reequipping, or destruction of carriers. Here there must be agreement on the numbers of weapons to be destroyed at each specific stage, on the places where they will be destroyed, and so forth.

Other additional measures could also be taken, right down to on-site inspections [inspektzii]. Only it is important that such measures do not serve as an instrument of interference in states' internal affairs or harm any of the sides.

The USSR's approach to questions of verification [kontrol] -- in all directions of limiting and reducing arms -- leads to the creation of guarantees of the security of all the states participating in this process and, in the final analysis, to the creation of a comprehensive system of international security. It shows the groundlessness of the attempts by the United States and other NATO countries to use the verification [kontrol] problem to erect artificial obstacles at the talks on limiting arms and to delay reaching mutually acceptable accords there.

It is known that Washington uses references to verification [kontrol] difficulties to block the solution of the problem of banning and totally eliminating chemical weapon stockpiles, refuses to solve the problem of banning space-strike arms, on which the solution of the problem of nuclear arms reduction in turn depends, and is slowing down the process of reducing armed forces and arms in Central Europe.

Recently this tactic of Washington's has been manifested particularly noticeably in the question of ending nuclear weapon tests and in the U.S. refusal to join in the Soviet moratorium on all nuclear explosions. The Soviet Union has declared that verification [kontrol] of the ending of tests is no problem. It can be ensured by national technical means and also with the help of international procedures -- where necessary, even with on-site inspection [inspektsiya]. The Soviet Union has expressed readiness to take advantage of the six states' offer to give assistance in verifying [proverka] the ending of nuclear tests. It has also been suggested to the U.S. Administration that experts from the two countries -- the USSR and the United States -- meet at any time, in any place to discuss questions connected with verifying [kontrol] the ending of nuclear explosions. This clear USSR stance has torn the mask of hypocrisy from the Washington opponents of ending nuclear tests.

The USSR's proposals in the verification [kontrol] sphere clearly demonstrate our country's readiness to solve constructively and without delay the urgent problems of limiting the arms race in all directions, reducing the danger of nuclear war breaking out, and strengthening throughout the world.

U.S. 'Nuclear Madness' Criticized

PM150951 Moscow KRSNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 13 Apr 86 First Edition p 3

[Colonel M. Ponomarev "Military-Political Review": "Against the Nuclear Madness"]

[Text] The nuclear explosion code-named "Mighty Oak" which rocked the test site in Nevada on Thursday once again lit up the very essence of Washington's policy. It exposed it as utterly brazen, high-handed, and characterized by a total disregard for the opinion of the world community and its own people. In sanctioning this explosion, the White House has demonstrated to the peoples of the world that the U.S. ruling group overtly puts the interests of the U.S. military-industrial circles before the interests of the whole of mankind.

The world community responded to Washington's provocative actions with a storm of anger. Illusions turned to dust -- the illusions of people who despite facts to the contrary still believed until a few days ago that the U.S. Administration was capable of heeding the voice of reason, that ultimately it would join the moratorium on all nuclear explosions introduced by the Soviet Union more than 8 months ago. The irresponsible actions of the U.S. Government are regarded everywhere as an overt challenge not just to the Soviet Union but also to the peoples of all continents, to the world as a whole.

Blinded by its unrealizable dream of military-strategic superiority over the Soviet Union, the Pentagon is demonstratively declaring its plans to proceed with the implementation of its nuclear test program with the aim of improving existing mass destruction systems and creating [sozdaniye] new such systems. An explosion code-named "Jefferson" is scheduled to take place on 23-24 April, THE WASHINGTON POST has reported. In all, another 13 nuclear explosions are planned this year, not counting the two which have already been carried out. And many of them will be experiments with nuclear devices within the framework of the program for the creation [sozdaniye] of "star wars" weapons, that is, space strike arms -- which, incidentally, was the case with the explosion just carried out.

This is the harsh reality. And it bears out again and again how well-founded and topical the following conclusion drawn by the 27th CPSU Congress is: At no time during the postwar decades has the situation in the world been so explosive and unfavorable. Indeed, the arms race unleashed by the United States and its allies in the vain hope of taking social revenge and the development of military technology have brought the world to a critical point.

The Soviet Union poses the question as follows: Is it possible to overcome the negative trends in the development of today's contradictory yet interdependent world? Is it possible to deliver our planet from the threat of a nuclear catastrophe? It is possible to ensure that very complex international problems are resolved by political rather than military means; is it possible to ensure peaceful cooperation between states and peoples? And to all these questions a firm and unequivocal answer is given: Yes, it can be done. It can and must be done.

Furthermore, the USSR has indicated specific and feasible measures to achieve this end which accord with the innermost aspirations of the Soviet people and all other peoples. Our country is persistently questing for a way out of confrontation. To this end, the unilateral Soviet moratorium on nuclear explosions was extended twice and a proposal was put forward to open talks without delay on ending nuclear explosions altogether. Compromise proposals meeting the West halfway were put forward at the conferences in Vienna and Stockholm. In the 15 January 1986 statement by the CPSU Central Committee general secretary a specific and clear plan was set forth for the elimination of mass destruction weapons and the reduction of other arms to limits essential for defense, and large-scale proposals relating to other topical questions were also outlined. A compromise option relating to medium-range missiles and European-zone operational-tactical nuclear weapons was put forward. The withdrawal of the Soviet and U.S. navies from the Mediterranean was proposed.

All these measures were endorsed by the 27th CPSU Congress. The congress drew up principles for the creation of a comprehensive system of international security. The congress defined our party's strategy in the international sphere -- a strategy whose aim is abundantly clear, namely to ensure the opportunity of working in conditions of lasting peace and freedom for the Soviet people. In the current situation, implementing this paramount demand of the party and Soviet foreign policy means above all halting the material preparations for war.

But this is precisely what the U.S. ruling circles do not want. Their actions pursue a diametrically opposed aim; they are forcing on material preparations for war, and primarily nuclear war, in every way. It is becoming increasingly obvious that Washington continues to lay stress on implementing a militarist line and to gamble on strength so as to be able to dictate its will to other countries and peoples. And with this end in mind it refuses to give up its attempts to perpetuate the confrontation situation. Furthermore, it is not embarrassed to speak about this openly.

I would like to recall a recent article by the U.S. defense secretary published in the journal FOREIGN AFFAIRS (KRASNAYA ZVEZDA reported it earlier). It is in the nature of a program document. It defines the main spheres of U.S. military policy in the nineties, that is, for the period through the end of the 20th century. A simple enumeration speaks for itself.

First, the notorious "Strategic Defense Initiative" [SDI] -- in other words, the extension of the arms race to space, the deployment of strike arms in earth orbit, and U.S. acquisition of a first-strike nuclear capability (this is what the article says: SDI in conjunction with the nuclear "deterrent"). Second, the use of military force in conjunction with "deterrence" by means of conventional arms. Third -- and only third! -- "the strategy of arms reduction and control", but even here with the proviso that talks on these problems should be conducted from a "position of strength." And fourth, once again "the strategy of rivalry" based on the "introduction of new weapons systems or a radical modernization of existing systems" to acquire the same old "relative superiority" over the Soviet Union, pursuing the same old objective of confrontation and the undermining of military and strategic parity -- strategic chaos, that is, in all areas.

It is quite obvious that the Washington administration's real aim is not the reduction and elimination of nuclear arsenals but, on the contrary, their buildup and the creation of new, even more destructive types of weapons.

According to THE WASHINGTON POST, the Reagan administration is implementing the biggest nuclear arms production program in 20 years. And at the same time it is seeking the appropriation of additional funds for the expansion of production facilities in order to ensure that weapons of this kind are produced on an even bigger scale during the nineties. The entire U.S. nuclear weapon production complex, which comprises seven factories, three arms development [sozdaniye] research establishments, and the test site in Nevada will be subject to modernization and reconstruction.

Even now new nuclear warheads for the MX ICBM's, Pershing-2 medium-range ballistic missiles, air-, ground-, and sea-launched cruise missiles, 203.2-mm artillery shells, two modifications of tactical aviation bombs, and a new strategic aviation bomb are being manufactured. While 155-mm nuclear artillery shells, warheads for the Trident-2 nuclear submarine missiles, and warheads for ASW defense missiles and depth charges are either in the development stage or the production organization stage.

In the budget for fiscal 1987 the Reagan administration has requested \$8.2 billion for nuclear weapons, which is approximately 150 percent more than was spent for the same purpose during the last year of the Carter administration. The plans for new construction and expansion of the U.S. nuclear weapon production complex, the newspaper notes, will make it possible to produce more than 2,000 of these weapons per year. While the creation of new research establishments will make it possible to conduct large-scale studies of the feasibility of using the energy of nuclear explosions in space strike-weapons under the "star wars" program.

However, even without this, U.S. rearmament is under way in all areas and is being implemented at a forced pace. In the last 3 years alone, THE NEW YORK TIMES wrote, 1,080 nuclear cruise missiles for B-52 bombers have been added to the U.S. arsenal, and in the near future their number will be brought up to 1,500. The U.S. Air Force has already received the new B-1B strategic bomber, and another -- the Stealth -- is in the pipeline. THE MX ICBM's are beginning to arrive ahead of schedule. The development [razrabotka] of another missile -- the Midgetman -- is nearly complete. The situation is similar in all branches of the U.S. Armed Forces.

Do people in the United States not understand where all this could lead? Well of course, they obviously do understand. But it is common knowledge that the rate of profit in the U.S. military industry is 50 percent, sometimes even 100 percent above the average for the country as a whole. This is the main incentive for capital to be channeled primarily into the production of instruments of death. And the government, the administration, which acts as the monopolies' executive committee, uses its policy to encourage and expand demand for these instruments. Every means is considered suitable, from "neoglobalism," the latest doctrine, through gambling on regional conflicts and efforts to exacerbate and expand them, demagogical arguments about the "need to protect U.S. national interests" in various parts of the world, to international terrorism elevated to the rank of Washington's state policy and intimidation with the notorious "Soviet military threat."

There is no need to repeat what serious implications all these facts have and what a threat to mankind is posed by the U.S. ruling circles' militarist course.

The Soviet Union assesses the prevailing situation realistically. Since, despite all the USSR's warnings, another nuclear test has been carried out in the United States, the Soviet Union has declared that it no longer considers itself bound by its unilateral pledge to refrain from carrying out nuclear explosions. The Soviet state cannot sacrifice its own security and the security of its allies.

However, the prevailing situation will not prevent the USSR from continuing its quest for a way out of the confrontation situation and for a switch to peaceful, civilized relations. The Soviet Union is declaring its readiness to return to the question of a mutual moratorium on nuclear explosions at any time, provided that the U.S. Government pledges to refrain from carrying out these explosions. After all, the problem of banning nuclear weapons tests is one of the most pressing problems and the USSR will continue to struggle persistently for its solution in the interests of ensuring international security and lasting peace without nuclear weapons.

However, Washington must know that in deciding its policy, the Soviet Union proceeds from a sober assessment of the whole range of real factors. We will not be caught unaware. The Soviet state has proved more than once that it is able to meet any challenge. Should it prove necessary, it will respond as appropriate this time too. Soviet people are well aware of the potential of modern science and their own potential. There is nothing that the United States can do that the Soviet Union cannot.

One would like to believe that Washington has not spoken its last word yet. One would like the United States too to take a step forward along the path of halting the arms race.

Reason must triumph over the nuclear madness.

REACTION AGAINST U.S. LIBYAN RAID NOTED

Gorbachev's Condemnation Meets With UN Approval

LD160543 Moscow TASS in English 0418 GMT 16 Apr 86

[Text] New York April 16 TASS -- The statement of the Soviet Government and the emphatic condemnation by the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev of the U.S. aggression against Libya which was set forth at the session of the U.S. Security Council by the Soviet Ambassador to the U.N. Yu. Dubinin have met with broad response in the U.N.

Yu. Dubinin said at the session of the Security Council which continued to discuss the lawless and aggressive U.S. actions that the armed anti-Libyan action of the U.S. was obviously connected with the overall policy of Washington aimed at subordinating sovereign countries to U.S. diktat, kindling the existing seats of tension and creating new ones in various regions, and at destabilizing international situation.

It is the direct duty of the Security Council to strongly denounce the act of armed aggression against Libya and demand that the U.S. should immediately stop armed attacks on it and should not stage any such actions in the future.

At the moment the most important thing is to prevent a further aggravation of the threat to world peace, to alleviate the extremely dangerous situation and not to let it get out of control altogether.

Libya UN Envoy Urges Condemnation

LD152109 Moscow TASS in English 2005 GMT 15 Apr 86

[Text] New York April 15 TASS -- The United States bandit and brutal attack against Libya launched with the support of the British and Israeli Governments is an example of open banditry in the international arena, the Security Council was told by Rajab al-Zaruq, Libya's representative to the U.N. Security Council. The American Air Force specially selected residential neighbourhoods of the Libyan cities as the targets of attack and dropped the death-carrying load on peaceful civilians, both Libyans and foreign citizens. The American military received instructions on launching that bandit raid at the same time when the U.S. representative was expatiating at length at the U.S. Security Council on the USA's "commitment" to the U.N. Charter. Al-Zaruq urged the Security Council to condemn resolutely and unequivocally the Washington-sponsored state terrorism to prevent repetition of aggressions against any developing country disagreeable to the USA.

Arab League, AAPSO Decry Act

LD152044 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 15 Apr 86

[Middle East correspondent Leonid Rassadin report; from the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] Our correspondent in the Middle East, Leonid Rassadin, reports by telephone:

This new, criminal aggression against sovereign Libya by the United States has provoked an unprecedented wave of anger and indignation everywhere in the Arab world. Today, from very early in the morning, Arab states' radio and television have been broadcasting the details of the piratical attack made by U.S. aircraft on Libyan territory.

The United States criminal brigandage has been sharply condemned by the Arab League; AAPSO has distributed a statement in Cairo calling on all peace-loving, progressive forces and all people of goodwill in the world to confirm their support with renewed force for the valiant people of the Libyan Jamahiriya, stolidly withstanding this barbaric aggression from U.S. imperialism.

Worldwide Reaction Noted

LD151951 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1445 GMT 15 Apr 86

[Report from "The World Today" program presented by Valeriy Korzin]

[Excerpt] Since early this morning, the teleprinters have been tapping out indignant reactions from all over the world. The U.S. actions were condemned -- literally in the first hours after the report on the attack on Libya -- by the foreign ministers of Sweden and the Netherlands, Andersson and Van den Broek. The Greens in the West German Bundestag came out against the attack, as well as Horst Ehmke, the deputy chairman of the Social Democratic Party group in the Bundestag; Miguel Porcell, executive secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Party of Panama; Senator Jorge Cruikshank, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Mexican Popular Socialist Party and Nasif Khiti, representative of the League of Arab States. Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, holding an urgent government meeting, voiced deep concern in connection with what occurred on Libyan territory. Al-'Attas, chairman of the presidium of the Supreme People's Council of the PDRY, urgently phoned Al-Qadhdhafi and said that the PDRY is on Libya's side.

Comrades, I have been enumerating these reactions in such detail in order to enable you to imagine what anger and indignation the U.S. actions are arousing in various corners of the globe. On behalf of millions of Soviet peace champions, the Soviet Peace Committee expressed anger and indignation at the unprecedented act of aggression perpetrated on President Reagan's personal orders.

Nonaligned Movement Deplores Action

LD151100 Moscow TASS in English 1002 GMT 15 Apr 86

[Text] New Delhi April 15 TASS -- India and the entire Non-Aligned Movement today strongly deplored the U.S. bombings of Libya and called upon the United States and all others to exercise the utmost restraint and not to do anything to aggravate the tense situation in the region, reports PTI. "The U.S. attacks on Tripoli, the capital of Libya, including the Presidential Palace, are all the more unjustifiable and deserve condemnation on the part of the members of the Non-Aligned Movement", the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, said in a statement. "As chairman of the Non-Aligned Movement, I earnestly call upon the U.S. and all others to exercise the utmost restraint and not to do anything to further aggravate the already tense situation in the region", he said. The Non-Aligned Movement also extended its firm support and solidarity to Libya at this critical hour.

Mr. Gandhi said "India and the entire Non-Aligned Movement are profoundly shocked and strongly deplore the U.S. bombings of some cities of Libyan Arab Jamahiriya. These acts are sought to be justified as retaliation for terrorist acts, allegedly committed by Libya." He said "The Non-Aligned Movement has consistently condemned all forms of terrorism, whether committed by individuals or organized by states. In these particular cases Libya has declared that it had no relationship to terrorist attacks and has declared itself against all terrorist operation like hijacking of aeroplanes and the murder of innocents. In view of this, the U.S. attacks on the capital of Libya, including the Presidential Palace in Tripoli, are all the more unjustifiable and deserve condemnation on the part of all the members of the Non-Aligned Movement."

FURTHER REACTION TO U.S. BOMBING OF LIBYAN SITES

Gorbachev Comments

LD151731 Moscow TASS in English 1606 GMT 15 Apr 86

[Text] Moscow April 15 TASS -- The general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev had a meeting today with Ingvar Carlsson, prime minister of Sweden and chairman of the Social-Democratic Labour Party of Sweden, who is in Moscow on an official visit.

When characterising in detail the socio-economic situation in the world and the international situation Mikhail Gorbachev firmly condemned the American Administration's lawlessness and arbitrary action against Libya. By its armed attack against a small country it exposed the essence of its approach to cardinal international problems. This action, which cannot be justified by any arguments, is a link in the chain of the challenging and provocative actions of the United States taken in response to the Soviet Union's peace initiatives and directed at frustrating the search of ways of improving international relations and stamping out the positive tendencies and hopes that have appeared as a result of the Geneva meeting. They signify a deliberate aggravation of Soviet-American relations.

The whole international community, the United Nations Organization and, in the first place, Western Europe, the NATO member countries are confronted with the serious choice: Passiveness, the more so connivance at or complicity in actions of this kind threatens turmoil in international relations with unpredictable consequences.

Civilisation is going through a turning point in its development. And the time has come for all, who can reason responsibly and sensibly, to take a clear-cut stand, irrespective of ideological and political differences. The mechanism of mankind's self-preservation should be committed to action. There is no time to be lost. Interaction between the Communists and Social Democrats can give much in this respect. Much will also depend on the conduct of Western Europe, which has great potentialities, but lacks political will.

The participants in the meeting pointed out that the meeting in Geneva had set in motion the potential of peace, and it is important to do everything necessary by common efforts to prevent the devaluation of the positive things that were started in international relations.

The similarity of stands on a number of major international problems was noted with satisfaction -- such problems as the need to eliminate nuclear weapons, and end to nuclear explosions, prevention of the transfer of arms to space, cooperation of states on an equal basis, the right to the choice in social development and complete independence, non-interference in internal affairs and so on.

Mikhail Gorbachev expressed unqualified respect for the traditional policy of neutrality conducted by Sweden, highly assessed Olof Palme's international activity in the Nonaligned Movement, as leader of the commission named after him, as one of the initiators of the "Delhi Six" which on behalf of hundreds of millions of people of four continents makes an important contribution to the cause of curbing the arms race.

He expressed readiness to cooperate with Ingvar Carlsson in further efforts to implement the idea of international and European security, including the European north.

Views were exchanged on fundamental questions of bilateral relations. The experience accumulated over many years, the atmosphere of equality and trust make it possible to advance in the development of the political dialogue of the two countries and of mutually advantageous economic ties with the emphasis on new forms of these ties dictated by scientific-technical progress. We want relations with Sweden to be immune to any transient fluctuations, Mikhail Gorbachev said. It was agreed that any problems that might arise will be discussed at various levels directly and frankly as it befits good neighbours, in a spirit of mutual understanding and with due account for the interests of both countries.

At Ingvar Carlsson's request Mikhail Gorbachev spoke about the CPSU's activity to implement the decisions of the 27th congress, the problems which have cropped up in the development of the Soviet society, the innovatory, far-reaching effort on an enormous scale to restructure the whole economy and raise the country to a qualitatively new level. He also said that the whole country has been set in motion and is determined and enthusiastic to make a better, fuller and more effective use of the enormous moral-political and social potential of socialism.

The meeting covered some regional problems and humanitarian issues.

In the common view, the meeting has made it possible to understand better each other's positions and views, has been a good basis for a further development of friendly, stable, Soviet-Swedish relations, intensification of contacts and exchanges of views, for broadening interaction in the international arena both along the state and party lines.

Ryzhkov Condemns Attack

LD151629 Moscow TASS in English 1617 GMT 15 Apr 86

[Text] Moscow April 15 TASS -- The Soviet Government resolutely condemns this bandit action against Libya and demands an immediate end to it, said Nikolay Ryzhkov, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR. He made a speech today at a dinner in honour of the Prime Minister of Sweden Ingvar Carlsson.

The head the Soviet Government stressed that this act of aggression, which cannot have any justification, is a manifestation of disregard for the interests of small states and peoples and flouts the United Nations Charter that prohibits the use of force in international relations.

USSR Government Statement

PM160957 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 16 Apr 86 Second Edition p 1

["Soviet Government statement"]

[Text] American imperialism has perpetrated a new criminal action fraught with a serious threat to universal peace and security.

On the night of April 14-15 carrier-borne aircraft of the 6th Fleet as well as U.S. planes based in Britain carried out an air attack on Libya and dealt a series of carefully planned strikes at the towns of Tripoli and Banghazi, including their residential areas. This barbarous raid has caused human casualties [chelovecheskiye zhervtvy] and considerable material damage.

The actual aggression by the United States against Libya, the disregard for the interests of small states and peoples displayed by the United States give rise to indignation in the whole world.

What we have, thus, is yet another patent confirmation of the essentially aggressive approach of the United States to independent developing countries, an approach that with every passing day is acquiring an increasingly warlike nature dangerous to the cause of peace. Contrary to common sense and ignoring present-day realities the American Administration is playing with fire. It should be clear that in the nuclear age all problems in relations between states should be solved by political means.

Not since the bandit attack on Grenada by the United States can one find such a flagrant mockery of international law and human morality in current history. The fact that once again after bombing Libya on 25 March this year the United States struck a blow at that sovereign Arab state irrefutably proves that the present American Administration is making violence, aggression, and belligerent chauvinism a standard of its policy.

Washington is trying hard to translate into practice its concept of "new globalism," which differs from its previous policies in that gunboat diplomacy has given way to aircraft carrier diplomacy.

The latest actions of the United States convince even the few in the West who still had some illusions about the true intentions of the White House that its present policy is a policy of aggression and provoking regional conflicts; a policy of perpetuating confrontation and balancing on the brink of war.

The American aggression is a brazen and open challenge to all world public opinion. No matter what "arguments" are now used in Washington, the fact remains that it is precisely the U.S. Administration that is mainly responsible for the aggravation of tension in the world and is irresponsibly playing with the fate of millions of people. The United States -- a great power, a permanent member of the United Nations Security Council bearing special responsibility for maintaining universal peace -- in practice most flagrantly violates the charter of this organization that prohibits the use of force in international relations.

The Soviet leadership has warned that such actions cannot but affect relations between the USSR and the United States. Unfortunately, as it is evidenced by the aggressive action against Libya, this warning was not heeded in Washington. In effect, the administration itself has made impossible at this stage the planned meeting on the level of the ministers of foreign affairs of our two countries.

The Soviet Government resolutely condemns the aggressive bandit action taken by the United States against Libya, a sovereign state and a member of the United Nations Organization, and demands an immediate end to it. Otherwise, more far-reaching conclusions will have to be drawn in the Soviet Union.

The policy of blackmail and threats, a policy that fundamentally contradicts the interests of peace and international security, should be discontinued once and for all.

'Piratical Actions' Criticized

PM161035 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 Apr 86 First Edition p 5

[Pavel Demchenko article under the general headline "The U.S. Act of Banditry":
"Observer's Opinion"]

[Text] For the second time in a month American Armed Forces have inflicted a strike on a sovereign state.

This time the attack on Libya was, as expected, more powerful and on a larger scale than that carried out at the end of March. It involved carrier-borne aircraft from carriers of the U.S. 6th Fleet, which is in the Mediterranean, and also a squadron of bombers based in Britain.

The targets for the bombings and shelling were both military and purely civilian, in particular residential districts of the city of Tripoli. Many dozens of people died, including Libyans and foreigners. By all appearances the destruction was great, and the French and Japanese Embassy buildings also suffered.

Against this background U.S. President Reagan's words to the effect that "the attacks were carefully targeted" and that the American forces "succeeded in their mission" look very sinister. Evidently open aggression by the biggest Western power against a small Arab state (with a population of less than 4 million), the killing of civilians, and the destruction of urban districts is being passed off as a "success." Washington is trying with truly maniacal stubbornness, as journalists note, to 'teach Al-Qadhdhafi's government a lesson or bring about its fall."

Such piratical actions fit in entirely logically with the present "neoglobalist" course of the American Administration, where the diehard "hawks" are spreading their wings again. Let us recall the events of recent days: Washington's intention of increasing military aid to the Nicaraguan "contras," the sending of Stinger antiaircraft missiles to the Afghan dushmans and the UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] gangs in Angola, and finally, the nuclear bomb explosion in Nevada, which caused indignation throughout the world and basically meant the rejection of the Soviet proposal to announce a moratorium on all nuclear explosions. And now the new strike against Libya. All these are links in the same chain, the same crazy policy.

The foreign press is noting today that some of the U.S. West European allies tried to prevent this military act and declared the need to show restraint. But this move was too irresolute and too late. Therefore the NATO states, and above all Britain, following in the wake of the adventurist U.S. course, bear a share of the responsibility for the unpredictable consequences to which Washington's terrorist act could lead. In the desire to impose its will on other countries and peoples, and in particular the peoples of the Near East, Washington presses on without reckoning either with the arguments of reason, or with international law, or with the desire of the planet's peoples for the lessening of tension and for lasting peace.

Bomb Attacks Reported

PM151537 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 16 Apr 86 Morning Edition pp 1, 4

[Report "Based on reports by IZVESTIYA correspondent, TASS, REUTER, and AFP": "U.S. Aircraft Attack on Libya; Reagan Doctrine in Action"]

[Text] On 15 April at 0000 GMT (0200 Libyan time) U.S. F-111 strategic fighter-bombers from bases in Britain and naval aircraft from the assault aircraft carriers of the 6th Fleet in the Mediterranean twice bombed residential quarters of the Libyan capital and the city of Benghazi. There are dozens of dead and injured, including foreigners, among the civilian inhabitants. An airborne attack was carried out on the residence of M. al-Qadhdhafi, the leader of the Libyan revolution. Libyan radio has reported that several members of M. al-Qadhdhafi's family have been wounded.

The buildings of the Embassies of France, Greece, Iran, and other countries have suffered as a result of the bomb attack.

There were 16 F-111 aircraft taking part in the raid. Before dropping their lethal cargo on Tripoli they flew above the Atlantic and the Mediterranean over a distance of 5,000 km, refueling in midair.

U.S. Defense Secretary C. Weinberger has announced that France refused to allow the United States to use its airspace to fly the shortest route from Britain to Libya.

Some 15 carrier-based A-6 and A-7 bombers from the U.S. 6th Fleet aircraft carriers American and Coral Sea took part in the attack on Banghazi. AFP reports that fighters and E-2C aircraft equipped with radar apparatus were also involved in the operation.

"During the night," REUTER reports, "Tripoli, a city with a population of 1 million, was awoken by the whine of U.S. military aircraft and the sound of explosions." During the bombing 225-kg and 880-kg laser-guided smart bombs were used.

It has been announced in Tripoli that three U.S. aircraft have been shot down by Libyan air defense means.

According to a BBC correspondent's report from Tripoli, about 100 people wounded during the U.S. air attack have been taken to the Libyan capital's central hospital.

Speaking on television, President Reagan has reported that U.S. air and naval forces delivered a series of bomb strikes against Libyan territory. According to him, a whole series of "carefully" selected targets, mainly of a military nature, were subjected to bombing. He confirmed that the attack was undertaken on his personal orders. In an attempt to justify this act of aggression, he alleged that Libya is pursuing a policy that "threatens" U.S. national interests. That is why the United States acted exclusively with a view to "self-defense" and "prevention," the U.S. President said. The action that was undertaken, he said, "could make the world safer."

Reagan accused the Libyan Government of assisting "international terrorism." Here he cited an explosion several days ago at a West Berlin discotheque as a result of which 2 people died and 230, including 50 U.S. servicemen, were wounded. According to the President, the United States has proof of Libya's involvement in this explosion. Yet previously, virtually on the eve of the attack, administration spokesmen had repeatedly stated that they had no evidence on this score. As is well known, Libya has also stated that it was not involved in the explosion. Moreover, the special commission formed in West Berlin to investigate the circumstances of the discotheque incident has found no link between Libya and the explosion.

The White House incumbent has issued new threats against Libya, stressing that unless Tripoli modifies its behavior, the United States may use military force against that country again. "Today we did what we had to do and if necessary we will do it again," he said.

The President's statements thus leave no doubt that Washington was acting as it saw fit. This adventurist policy, as was to be expected, has failed to meet with support among the U.S. Western European allies. Secretary of State Shultz was obliged to admit that.

Addressing journalists in the White House he said that among Washington's allies "there are various opinions" regarding the military actions against Libya. "So far," the secretary of state said, "they do not share our conviction that these actions were necessary..."

Addressing journalists, White House Deputy Press Secretary Speakes pointed out that the operation undertaken on Reagan's personal instructions had ended successfully. "The U.S. forces," he said, "delivered strikes against command and control, intelligence, communications, and rear services systems and against training establishments," he said. In addition strikes were delivered against military targets in Tripoli and an air defense battery in Benghazi.

The statement issued by the White House states that the delivery of air strikes against Libya "has been completed and U.S. aircraft are returning." At the same time, Defense Secretary Weinberger admitted that contact with one aircraft had been lost.

Pentagon spokesmen have announced that the aircraft carriers Coral Sea and America are moving toward Libya.

Attack 'Cannot Be Justified'

PM151605 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 16 April 86 Morning Edition p 4

[Political Observer A. Bovin article: "Crime"]

[Text] Frankly speaking, I did not think that the White House would bomb Libyan cities. Not because I had any illusions about R. Reagan's political philosophy or his attitude toward international law. Everything is clear here. However, it seemed to me that the characteristic pragmatism of Americans and their ability to weigh the pros and cons of a particular action would stop Washington at a dangerous line. But I was let down by ordinary logic, the logic I studied in school. Indeed, as the ancients used to say, he whom God wishes to destroy, he first drives mad... For, if they retain a healthy mind and a sound memory, even the Americans cannot reckon that peace will return in times of fist-law.

By all yardsticks, by all criteria -- except overtly, provocatively imperialist ones -- Washington has committed a crime. This means there must be punishment too. In saying this, I am certainly not calling for Washington or New York to be bombed. Criminal adventurism will become immeasurably more dangerous if it is able to shake and undermine political responsibility -- responsibility for mankind's destiny. The response to American piracy must be the effective solidarity of the Arab peoples, the solidarity of all peoples, all states, and public movements that resolutely uphold civilized forms of relations in the international arena.

I want to talk particularly about the U.S. Western European allies. They are now reaping what they themselves have sown. Not to mince words, the U.S. actions can be described as spitting in the face of West European politicians. These politicians have frequently grumbled, sometimes mildly reproved their "elder brother," more rarely protested, but, in the final analysis, they have always indulged American adventurism, found excuses for it, and talked of Atlantic mutual understanding and mutual support. Now they have left it too late [dozhdalis]...

This is not the first time that the American leaders have themselves put their country in the pillory.

And I would like to say: Let them do so, if it gives them so much pleasure. But I cannot confine myself to what I have said. The policy of the White House -- let us recall, for example, Vietnam, Grenada, Nicaragua -- brings death and unhappiness to people. And therefore people struggle and will struggle against relapses into imperial thinking and imperial politics that cannot be justified in any way.

Attack to 'Intimidate' Soviet Union

PM151511 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 16 Apr 86 First Edition p 5

[Article by A. Mozgovoy: "A Fit of Imperial Rage"]

[Text] It is evident from the White House spokesman's statement that the aggression against Libya was sanctioned by President Reagan personally. This decision was supported by Vice President Bush, Secretary of State Shultz, and other ranking officials. Thus the responsibility for the criminal act of state terrorism falls squarely on the U.S. Government.

The British Conservative Government has assumed the role of an accomplice in the brazen aggression. It gave permission for U.S. F-111 fighter-bombers to use British airfields to carry out the piratical raids against Libya. "Mrs Thatcher has paved the way for President Reagan to launch a massive air strike against Libya," the London MAIL ON SUNDAY writes.

The aggression against Libya is a glaring example of the implementation of the hegemonist "Reagan doctrine," which is referred to in Washington as the concept of "neoglobalism." I would recall that back at the end of March the United States carried out an armed attack against this Mediterranean country. The environs of Surt were subjected to a missile and bomb attack, while ships of the U.S. 6th Fleet hit several Libyan patrol boats and civilian vessels in the Gulf of Sidra. At that time the piratical actions were justified by the "need to protect the principle of the freedom of navigation." But it is the United States rather than Libya that is flouting the norms of international law, including the UN Charter. Now another false claim is being used as a pretext for aggression: the claim of "Tripoli's complicity" in terrorist attacks in Western Europe. But Libya, like all civilized countries, resolutely condemns all forms of terrorism and air piracy causing casualties among innocent people. This is indicated in a recent statement by the Libyan Jamahiriya People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison.

However, it is not a question of causes, but of what is basically happening, which is as follows: The United States has set itself the task of bringing to its knees a young country that is pursuing an anti-imperialist course. When political pressure and economic sanctions failed to have the desired result, the missiles and bombs were brought in. In fact, the target of aggression is not just Libya but all independent states unwilling to submit to U.S. diktat. Uncle Sam is teaching a lesson: This is what happens to those who thwart him.

The White House plan is for the aggression in the Mediterranean to make an impression on Moscow. In what way? The recent nuclear explosion in Nevada, the supplies of new weapons to bandit formations in Afghanistan and Angola, and the attack on Libya are links in the same chain. They are a recurrence of the position of strength policy that the present Washington administration is reviving. The obvious intention is to intimidate the Soviet Union with U.S. military strength. But the latest militarist sortie against Libya is not a sign of strength, but a fit of imperial rage.

By sowing the wind of crimes against peace and security, the United States will reap the whirlwind of all the peoples' anger and contempt. All people of goodwill are expressing solidarity with Libya. It will certainly be given the necessary support.

U.S. Media Raises Concerns

LD161136 Moscow TASS in English 0942 GMT 16 Apr 86

[Text] Washington April 16 TASS -- The raid on Libya came as a violation not only of the norms of international law, but also of a special executive order prohibiting any attempt by U.S. officials to assassinate foreign leaders.

According to THE WASHINGTON POST that quoted well-informed sources, one of the primary targets of the bombing raid of U.S. Air Forces planes was the personal compound of the leader of the Libyan revolution Mu'ammr al-Qadhafi. The violation of the executive order was so obvious that it raised concerns even during a National Security Council meeting, THE WASHINGTON POST emphasized. In the end, however, the Post said, legal counselors of the administration advised that the strike could be justified as a self-defensive attack.

It follows from the article in THE WASHINGTON POST that the White House and President Reagan personally were simply misleading the American and world public when they said that they had irrefutable evidence of Libya's involvement in recent terrorist attacks in Europe. Quoting one high-level administration official, THE WASHINGTON POST made it plain that the evidence cited by President Reagan in his Monday night address to the nation were actually not substantiated by anything. Nonetheless, the White House considered it possible to order a bandit raid which killed and wounded scores of totally innocent civilians, including children.

Some time ago President Reagan described the dirty war waged by the United States in Vietnam as noble. He made an [as received] approximately the same assessment of what American airmen did to Libya. Speaking in the White House Tuesday, the President praised the murderers who, in his words, performed courageously. Reagan left no doubt that the United States would not stop at new raids if it considered them necessary.

In the meantime it is becoming clear that, in planning a raid on Libya, the United States breached yet another time its commitments before the partners in the North Atlantic Alliance. Consultations appropriate in such cases gave way to a simple demand that the allies unquestioningly support Washington. The demand was contained in messages from the president which special White House envoy Vernon Walters delivered to state and government leaders in a number of NATO countries. The demand was rejected by nearly all.

According to the CBS television company, only three countries -- Israel, Canada and Great Britain -- expressed support for what Washington did.

Evaluating the reaction of Mid-Eastern nations, THE WASHINGTON POST emphasized that even those among them that are usually pro-Western condemned the U.S. action against Libya.

Lomeyko on 'Gangster Actions'

LD151551 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1500 GMT 15 Apr 86

[Text] Moscow, 15 Apr (TASS) — The Soviet Union has condemned the brutal actions of the U.S. Administration against Libya, a sovereign state, Vladimir Lomeyko, head of the Press Department of the USSR Foreign Ministry, said here today. He was addressing a briefing at the Press Center of the USSR Foreign Ministry for Soviet and Swedish newsmen accompanying Swedish Prime Minister Ingvar Carlsson during his visit to the Soviet Union.

In the early hours of 15 April, carrier-based aircraft of the U.S. 6th Fleet and U.S. aircraft based in Britain launched an air raid against Libya and delivered a whole series of pre-planned strikes, including against residential blocks in the cities of Tripoli and Benghazi, inflicting great material damage.

There are civilian casualties.

The USSR considers these brutal actions, Vladimir Lomeyko stressed, a violation of international law and total disregard for common human ethics. The USSR has also evaluated these actions as a manifestation in practice of the "neoglobalism" doctrine advocating interference in the internal affairs of other states, including gangster actions.

The Soviet Union has expressed a most resolute protest, condemned these actions, and demanded an end to them. This viewpoint has been brought to the attention of the U.S. Administration, the head of the Press Department of the USSR Foreign Ministry said.

Replying to journalists' questions, V. Lomeyko said: We live in an interdependent world, where a deterioration of the situation in one region cannot fail to have an effect on the overall situation. What we have here is a criminal, vile attack by one state on another sovereign state. This cannot fail to complicate the situation both in the region itself and in the world as a whole.

No excuses can serve as justification for aggressive actions and military interference in the affairs of other states, head of a department of the USSR Foreign Ministry Vladimir Lomeyko stressed.

Kornilov Cites World Indignation

LD151507 Moscow TASS in English 1415 GMT 15 Apr 86

[Text] Moscow April 15 TASS -- By TASS political news analyst Yuriy Kornilov.

The world is indignant, the world is exasperated -- the American aggression against Libya has demonstrated yet another time the extent of danger created by the policy of those quarters in Washington which have made their imperial objectives and hegemonistic ambitions paramount to international law and are clearly working toward maintaining and intensifying tensions in international relations.

The deliberate character of what has been done is beyond all doubt. For a long time now Washington has not bothered to conceal its hostile intentions toward Libya. U.S. naval and Air Force units have been staying off the Libyan coast on a virtually permanent basis. The effort to work up military tensions around Libya has been accompanied by concealed threats against it.

Trying to cover up and camouflage the fact that the aggression against sovereign Libya was a pre-planned bandit action Washington is sparing no effort in accusing Libya, absolutely groundlessly, of all mortal sins, passing off the United States as some kind of "fighter of international terrorism" which, as President Ronald Reagan said, was acting in -- "self defense". If one listens to the President, one may get the impression that it was not U.S. bombers that took off from military bases in Britain and the U.S. aircraft carriers in the Mediterranean to bring down their lethal cargo of bombs on the country thousands of miles from the American coasts, but that Libyan warplanes are flying over Texas and California.

This is where one may get in a bid to turn black into white.

The world knows full well what Washington-style "self defense" is. And not from Libya's example, too. It is, if one speaks of the comparatively recent past, is a U.S. aggression against Vietnam that Washington intended "to bomb back into the Stone Age", a bloody counter-revolutionary putsch in Chile, and a bandit attack on independent Grenada.

It is, if one speaks of today, undeclared wars started by the United States on the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and on Nicaragua, Washington's alliance with Zionist storm-troopers from Tel Aviv, the teaming up of Washington geopoliticians with South African racists and Washington's support for the criminals from the Pol Pot's clique.

It is difficult, in fact impossible, to find a region of the world where Washington adherents of hegemonistic concepts of "new globalism", who proclaim at the top of their voice almost the entire planet a "sphere of America's vital interests", are not intervening in a most unabashed manner in the affairs of independent countries, where in a heavy reliance on force they are not engaged in terror and banditry in a bid to restore the positions lost by the United States, to promote U.S. influence and dominate sovereign countries and peoples whose policies and the mode of life "do not suit" Washington.

The Reagan administration, THE WASHINGTON POST wrote recently, needs a good big mirror looking into which it would see a hypocrite.

Architects of the U.S. foreign policy are unwilling to look into such a mirror themselves, and their hypocritical and cynical attempts to justify the bandit character of their actions with the help of awkward propaganda tricks can deceive no one.

The U.S. attack on Libya is nothing less than an overt policy of state terrorism, contempt for the Charter of the United Nations, an effort to thrust its will on the people of a sovereign country with the force of arms and to destabilize the situation.

Washington has elevated aggression to the status of policy -- the factor which is causing growing indignation and concern of very broad sections of the international public.

U.S. Leaders 'Ignore' History

LD151617 Moscow TASS in English 1518 GMT 15 Apr 86

["Brazen Challenge to the Whole World" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow April 15 TASS -- TASS Political News Analyst Boris Shabayev writes:

The United States has done it -- it has launched a series of "carefully planned air strikes" against Libya, as an official statement of the White House says. This has been done contrary to the voice of reason, in the teeth of the calls of manifest responsibility for the destinies of humanity, and warnings of the United States allies. Cynically, the President of the United States publicly admitted that the bombing of Tripoli and Benghazi had been executed on his personal order. That bombing caused numerous civilian casualties.

The version about "combatting terrorism" is as false from beginning to end. Aside from the fact that Washington cannot offer any proof of Libya's involvement in any terroristic actions and that the U.S. Administration stubbornly ignores all official Libyan denials to this effect, the very choice of targets. Even the building of the French Embassy was hit...

Without batting an eyelid, the President asserted that the strikes had been dealt as "self-defence", against targets that are part of "terrorist infrastructure". It is not for the first time that Washington resorts to such tricks to unleash an aggression. It is precisely in this way that an incident in the Gulf of Tonkin was provoked in 1964, the incident that was followed by the United States direct intervention into Vietnam. The invasion of Rangers into Grenada and the overthrow of the lawful government of that country was sought to justify by "self-defence" against the menace allegedly presented by a non-existent "military base".

Only one thing in the White House's statement is true: That the strike against Libya was planned carefully and for long. As soon as the present U.S. Administration came into power it assumed the course at overthrowing the Libyan leadership and replacing it with a regime that would be obedient to Washington. In 1981, the United States severed diplomatic relations with Libya, shot down two Libyan planes over the Gulf of Sidra and next year launched economic warfare against the Libyan Jamahiriya. THE WASHINGTON POST then revealed that the CIA plans the assassination of the Libyan leader Mu'ammarr al-Qadhafi, while the French NOUVELLE magazine reported the Pentagon's plans of a series of military exercises off the Libyan coast to prepare its invasion under the pretext of "combatting terrorism". In the past five years the United States staged 18 military exercises near the Libyan boundaries, violating them crudely many times.

There have been revelations about the United States persistent attempts to provoke a conflict between Libya and some of its neighbours so as to crush the Libyan Jamahiriya by the United States allies in the region. The fall of the Numayri regime in Sudan and Cairo's refusal to serve as a pawn in the implementation of the U.S. plans of attacking Libya compelled the White House to alter the means, but not at all the aims of its policy. Things went so far that U.S. officials joined publicly in the discussion of the residence of the Libyan leader was one of the main targets of the piratic raid on Tripoli? And after all these things they in Washington have the impudence to talk about "combatting terrorism".

Launching an outright aggression against Libya, the leaders of the present U.S. Administration, apparently, proceed from the view that the "Vietnam syndrome" is now a thing of the past and that U.S. imperialism, throwing caution to the wind, is now able to act arbitrarily on the international arena, to decide as it sees fit the destinies of sovereign states and peoples. But the memory of peoples is not so short-lived as that of official Washington. They remember not only how the rampage of chauvinistic passions starts but also in what it ends.

Openly banking on force, defying entire humanity, the U.S. ruling circles ignore the lessons of history. But such "forgetfulness", as history shows, is fraught with most serious consequences.

New U.S. Raid Reported

LD152218 Moscow TASS in English 2150 GMT 15 Apr 86

[Text] Tripoli April 16 TASS -- Late in the evening yesterday, a new air raid was launched against the Libyan capital. The sound of explosions could be heard in the city, air defences were committed to action. The Libyan radio said that U.S. aircraft had again bombed Tripoli.

Washington April 16 TASS -- In an attempt at misleading world public, the White House denied the fresh act of aggression against the sovereign Arab country. A spokesman for the White House press service said that the United States was not waging military actions in or near Libya.

Madrid April 16 TASS -- The Spanish television confirmed a new raid against Tripoli. A spokesman for the Spanish Embassy in the Libyan capital, whom the anchorman of the Spanish television programme phoned, said that an air raid on Tripoli had started. He added that he could hear the sound of bombs falling on the city. A spokesman for the People's Bureau of the Libyan Jamahiriyah in Madrid told the Spanish radio that the U.S. planes launched a missile strike against Tripoli.

London April 16 TASS -- It has been learned in the British capital that fourteen American F-111 bombers took off shortly before the reports on a new raid against Tripoli from U.S. Air Force bases in Britain's territory. A spokesman for the U.S. Air Force confirmed that fact. He claimed that those planes were participating in NATO exercises and their mission was not linked with any operations against Libya.

New York April 16 TASS -- Commenting on the claim by the spokesman for the U.S. Air Force in Britain, the ASSOCIATED PRESS agency pointed out that a similar statement had been made the day before when a group of F-111 bombers and refueller planes took off from American bases in Britain. It was learned later that it is precisely those aircraft, which took part in the raid against Libyan cities.

U.S. Aircraft Reported Downed

LD152230 Moscow TASS in English 2202 GMT 15 Apr 86

[Text] Tripoli April 16 TASS -- As the JANA agency reported, on Tuesday evening American aircraft again bombed Tripoli's residential neighbourhood. The Libyan air defences downed four aircraft.

U.S. Reserves 'Right' to 'Piracy'

PM151439 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 16 Apr 86 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "R. Reagan: The 'Right' to Piracy']

[Text] Washington, 15 Apr -- President R. Reagan has appeared on television to address the country, announcing that U.S. air and naval forces have made a series of strikes against Libyan territory.

The statement by the White House chief showed that the present U.S. Administration does not intend to reckon with the generally accepted norms of civilized behavior in the world, and reserves the "right" to continue its armed piracy, using military force against countries which inconvenience Washington. "Today we did what we had to do. If necessary, we will do it again," he stated.

Boasting that "our forces succeeded in fulfilling their mission," the President put forward the false story that the bombings were carried out in response to the 5 April explosion in a West Berlin nightclub frequented by U.S. servicemen. However, even the U.S. NATO allies did not take on trust Washington's assertions that the administration has "irrefutable evidence" of Libya's involvement in the terrorist act in West Berlin.

In any event, it remains the fact that long before the explosions at the West Berlin discotheque, the U.S. Administration had set a course of overthrowing the people's regime in Libya; back in 1981 the CIA embarked on the implementation of a plan, approved at the highest level, for the physical elimination of Mu'ammarr al-Qadhafi, leader of the Libyan revolution. The fact that in the course of the raids on the night of 14-15 April Al-Qadhafi's residence was chosen as one of the main targets for the U.S. Air Force is just one of the aspects confirming the existence of this plan of the U.S. special services, who have been given the "go-ahead" for terrorist acts by the present U.S. Administration. The other day the Newhouse information service reported, citing U.S. intelligence circles, that the CIA has elaborated its next "covert operation" with the aim of overthrowing M. al-Qadhafi's government. "The decision has been taken in principle that Al-Qadhafi must go," it wrote. "The President has ordered that effective means of organizing the fall of his government be sought.

More Raids Possible

LD160438 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0410 GMT 16 Apr 86

[Text] Washington, 16 Apr (TASS) -- Speaking on Tuesday before members of the American Business Conference, President Reagan made it clearly understood that his administration is ready to undertake new raids against Libya and other sovereign countries. He cynically praised the U.S. warriors who carried out the barbaric raid on the territory of Libya, stating that the United States had so far won one engagement in the long battle against terrorism. As is known, official Washington hangs the label "terrorists" on those states, national liberation movements, or organizations which refuse to submit to U.S. diktat.

Weinberger on Bombing Accuracy

LD152235 Moscow TASS in English 1215 GMT 15 Apr 86

["About U.S. Aggression Against Libya" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Washington, April 15 TASS -- U.S. Secretary of Defence Caspar Weinberger when answering journalists' questions about the military actions against Libya, pointed out an unusual accuracy of bombing, emphasising that laser-guided weapons had been used during the bombing of Libyan territory.

Paris, April 15 TASS -- According to a FRANCE PRESSE report from Washington, U.S. Secretary of Defence Caspar Weinberger said that the Government of France had denied the USA a permission for F-111 bombers to fly across French airspace when the bombers were on their way to bomb the Libyan capital.

Paris, April 15 TASS -- As the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs has reported, the French Embassy was hit in a bomb attack during the U.S. air raid on the capital of Libya. The embassy building was damaged.

Dubinín, Walters Speeches Cited

LD161016 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0340 GMT 16 Apr 86

[By TASS correspondent Vyacheslav Chernyshev]

[Excerpts] New York, 16 Apr (TASS) -- "At the request of Libya, and also a large group of Arab and African states, the UN Security Council has begun urgent discussion of the U.S. bandit aggression against Libya."

"The statement by the Soviet Government and the pronouncements by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee in connection with the U.S. aggression against Libya, brought a wide response from participants in the session. They were read by Y.V. Dubinín, USSR permanent representative at the United Nations. We are faced with a direct link between U.S. armed action against Libya and Washington's general line aimed at subjugating sovereign states to U.S. diktat, fanning existing hotspots and creating new hotspots of tension in various areas, and destabilizing the international situation, he declared. The clear duty of the Security Council is to decisively condemn this act of armed aggression against Libya, to demand that the United States immediately end its armed attacks on Libya, and to not tolerate such acts in the future. The main task now is to avert a further growth in the threat to international peace, to defuse the extremely dangerous situation that has arisen, and to prevent its finally getting out of control.

There was general condemnation of the speech made by V. Walters, U.S. permanent representative at the United Nations, who arrived at the UN Headquarters immediately on his return from a visit to Western Europe, during which he tried to gain the support of U.S. allies for the aggressive actions toward Libya. The U.S. representative made new verbal attacks on Libya, showing a total disdain for the international community and the norms of civilized behavior, an attitude so characteristic of the propagators and preachers of the notorious policies of "neoglobalism."

TV Reports Libyan Casualties

OW160313 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1040 GMT 15 Apr 86

[From "The World Today" program presented by Igor Kudrin]

[Text] Hello comrades. I will begin this program with the news that was featured today in morning editions of foreign newspapers and radio and television programs. What the international public feared has occurred. The United States has carried out an air raid on Libya. Residential quarters of the capital, Tripoli, and of Benghazi were bombed. There are dozens of civilians killed and injured.

An air attack was also carried out against the residence of Mu'ammarr al-Qadhafi, leader of the Libyan revolution. According to reports, some members of his family were injured.

It is apparently no coincidence that in recent days many television companies have been showing these shots of strike aircraft carriers of the U.S. 6th Fleet in the Mediterranean sailing in direct proximity to the Libyan coast. Aircraft were ready to take off at any minute. [video shows U.S. aircraft carrier at sea, deck fighter aircraft, aerial refueling tankers and F-111's at air base] These were the very fighter-bombers from aircraft carriers and NATO bases in Britain that used their firepower against the independent and sovereign state.

More than 30 aircraft took part in this act of piracy. Libyan air defense forces shot down at least one American vulture.

Raid Worsens International Scene

LD151359 Moscow World Service in English 1310 GMT 15 Apr 86

[Text] American aircraft in the early morning of Tuesday made two bomb attacks on the Libyan capital Tripoli and the city of Benghazi. Aleksandr Pogodin comments:

This is open aggression by the United States against Libya. The Washington administration acted with appalling cruelty when it ordered attacks on peacefully sleeping residential areas. The bomb attacks led to casualties, including among foreigners. President Reagan has claimed that the attack on Libya was an act of retaliation in the struggle against international terrorism, with its monstrous cruelty. In reality it is Washington that has been reacting with monstrous cruelty. It has made terrorism standard practice in its foreign policy. What we have been witnessing is the worst and most dangerous type of terrorism, state sponsored terrorism, which has been condemned by the world community in United Nations resolutions.

International brigandage has become part and parcel of Washington's policy aimed at overthrowing governments that are not to its liking and at suppressing national liberation movements. The Soviet national daily PRAVDA in a comment on the situation around Libya says this: The United States ruling quarters had been masking their international brigandage, which has become everyday practice, with ever new names; neo-globalism, the Reagan doctrine and others. However, whatever the name, the meaning of such actions would be the same, impudent interference in the affairs of sovereign nations in Asia, Africa and Latin America, aimed at reversing the march of history. Aggressive action by the United States on Tuesday were not simply an attack on Libya, they worsened the already charged international situation still further.

Arab World Reaction Reported

LD151708 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 15 Apr 86

[Reaction to U.S. attack on Libya presented by commentator Igor Charikov with report from station correspondent in Damascus Kazbek Basiyev]

[Text] The U.S. armed aggression against sovereign Libya has aroused a wave of angry condemnation and indignation among the international public. Here is commentator Igor Charikov:

[Charikov] Throughout the day we have been constantly receiving reports from the capitals of foreign states telling of protests against the latest act of brigandage by Washington. First of all listen to what we have been told about the reaction in Arab countries by our Damascus correspondent, Kazbek Basiyev:

[Begin Basiyev recording] The reports about the barbarous bombing by U.S. aircraft flew like lightning around the capitals of Arab countries today. Damascus radio interrupted its broadcasts to report in a special bulletin details of the raids that resulted in dozens of Libyans and also foreign citizens in Libya becoming victims of the U.S. aggressors.

Hafiz al-Asad, president of the Syrian Arab Republic, is maintaining constant telephone contact with Mu'ammarr al-Qadhdhafi, head of the Libyan state. In an official statement, the Syrian Government resolutely condemns the barbarous actions of the U.S. Administration and says that the Syrian Arab Republic expresses support for the Libyan Jamahiriyyah and is putting at its disposal all the means that it has to rebuff the aggressor.

Reports from the capitals of other Arab countries tell of solidarity with the courageous Libyan people and of readiness to give Libya all-round help to rebuff the bandit actions of the U.S. aircraft. It is noted that the U.S. aggression is directed not only against the Libyan people but also against all Arabs who are the main target of Washington's neoglobalist policy in the Near Eastern region.

Currently in many towns of Arab countries, mass protests are being held whose participants are angrily condemning the anti-Libyan plot of the U.S. Administration. [end recording]

[Charikov] I would like to add, to what Kazbek Basiyev reported, one fragment from the statement that was made in Moscow today by Rami Muhammad al-Sha'ir, charge d'affaires of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

[Begin Al-Sha'ir recording in Arabic with superimposed Russian translation] In the face of the events and military provocations that have taken place we express the hope that Arab countries will undertake real efforts to achieve unity. We hope that any aggression against Libya will be regarded as aggression against all Arabs. We consider it very important that all politicians and also eminent public figures of the Arab countries should give a clear assessment of the situation in the Mediterranean. In our opinion, something should be said also by the leaders of those countries that are directly related to that region [end recording]

[Charikov] Here are some wire reports: The French public supports the decision of the country's government to ban U.S. bombers from using French airspace for making a strike against Libya. This decision, as is known was made on the evening of the strike by U.S. aircraft against Tripoli and Benghazi. AFP reports that the United States warned France about the raid that was being prepared but did not say when it would be carried out.

A representative of the Netherlands Foreign Ministry expressed disappointment at the U.S. refusal to listen to the opinion of their Western European partners and to refrain from carrying out armed actions against Libya. As you know, the previous day, the foreign ministers of the EEC member countries called on Washington to avoid such actions, which would lead to a further escalation of military tension.

A whole series of eminent politicians in the FRG have condemned the attack on Libya as a senseless step capable only of complicating the situation not only in the Mediterranean but also relations between East and West as a whole.

The Government of the People's Republic of China, XINHUA reports, has expressed deep concern and disquiet in connection with the U.S. actions vis-a-vis Libya. It condemns such actions as an attack on the territory of another country and as an encroachment on its sovereignty and as a violation of the norms of international relations.

In Delhi, the capital of India, today there was a mass demonstration at the U.S. Embassy. The participants demanded that machinations against the Libyan Jamahiriya be stopped.

Out of all the United States NATO allies only the Conservative government of Great Britain has supported the piratical action. Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher gave permission for the use of U.S. bases in Britain for attacks on Libya. Her decision has aroused criticism from leading opposition parties' figures. Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader, called the U.S. attack on Libya a totally unjustified act and David Owen, head of the Social Democratic Party demanded that the government give an explanation why it allowed itself to be drawn into this adventure, why Great Britain became an accomplice in the U.S. policy of brigandage.

I would like to remind you that the decision by Margaret Thatcher's cabinet was unexpected for many because right up to the implementation of the actual attack, the Conservatives had talked of the unacceptability of any military actions.

Reports carrying condemnation of the bombing by U.S. aircraft of two Libyan cities continue to come in here to the editorial office.

Attack To Divert Public Attention

LD152213 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1850 GMT 15 Apr 86

[From "The World Today" program presented by Valeriy Korzin]

[Text] Our forces succeeded in fulfilling their mission, Reagan announced proudly to the American people in his television speech on the attack on Libya. Today we did what we had to do, he said. It is known that even the U.S. allies in NATO did not accept Washington's affirmations that the administration holds some sort of irrefutable evidence of Libyan involvement in terrorist acts in West Berlin. The President is trying to convince his fellow citizens that the bandit raid was some sort of reprisal. But this is a lie; a lie which even if repeated a hundred times remains a lie.

It is known that even 5 years ago in 1981 the Central Intelligence Agency tried to carry out a plan to physically eliminate the leader of the Libyan revolution. This plan was endorsed at the highest levels of American power, and it is no accident that last night one of the main targets of the bombing selected was Al-Qadhdhafi's residence.

A few days ago the [word indistinct] news service reported that the President had managed to find effective means of organizing the fall of Al-Qadhdhafi. Obviously a raid by American bombers is one such effective means.

The explosion in a West German discotheque was merely a not very successful pretext. There needed to be another one. And it is not only that Libya, which conducts an independent policy and hinders American expansion in the Arab East, aroused irritation in Washington. Certain organs of the mass media in the West look deeper. American foreign policy, they believe, is arousing more and more distrust among world public opinion and in the United States itself. The continuing nuclear tests in Nevada, at a time when our country has kept to its declared moratorium for 8 months, discredit the present administration. A normal person finds it hard to explain why these tests continue. And whatever the arguments Washington ideologues have invented, protests against them continue.

The bombing of Libya is a convenient step to knock down the wave of protest and to divert public attention to something else. It is a well-worn approach, if discontent with the government grows, an enemy is needed, and an enemy was found in the person of Mu'ammarr al-Qadhafi.

At the same time a mood of chauvinism is being whipped up. The discontented are accused of lacking patriotism, hysteria over the threat of terrorism is being used to discredit progressive social organizations, a campaign of fear, surveillance and intimidation against campaigners for peace and civil and political rights is being conducted. Cynicism is the word found more frequently than others in the commentaries of many international observers. Recently the Pentagon gave the press a video recording that showed exactly the moment when the Harpoon rocket hit one of the Libyan patrol boats. This was in March. It turns out that everything that happened during that attack was filmed. [video shows a fighter plane flying over a flat object] Perhaps now one of these bombers had on board a camera that recorded how the bombs fell on residential areas, how the children cried, how the dead fell. If necessary we will do it again, Reagan declared in his television appearance.

Linked To Nevada Test

LD152127 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 15 Apr 86

[U.S. correspondent Vladimir Dunayev report; from the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] Our correspondent in Washington, Vladimir Dunayev, has just reported by telephone:

After the nuclear blast in Nevada, an attack on Libya. The link between these actions was emphasized today by a local cab driver. He said that it was time to drop an atomic bomb on Libya. Those who have nurtured state chauvinism among the Americans, from their schooldays, in cinemas and theaters and on television, can be content. Today America is in an ecstasy of chauvinism. Today there are too many Ku Klux Klan-like smirks, not only on the television screens, but on the streets as well, although there are some who have not lost their natural sense of shame, who have not forgotten Vietnam and who went to the White House to protest a few minutes after President Reagan spoke on television.

Compared to Pretoria Policy

LD151942 Moscow in English to North America 1700 GMT 15 Apr 86

[Station commentary]

[Text] Destroyed buildings, killed civilians and the grief that has come to many families: such are the consequences of the barbaric air raid carried out by American planes.

The picture is painfully familiar. South Africa's raids on Angola leave similar marks on Angolan territory. Following the example of its overseas partner, the racist Pretoria regime goes ahead with armed provocations against Angola. With the help of bandits from the UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola], Mozambique National Resistance, and other puppet groupings, it tries to overthrow the legitimate governments of the frontline African states. The pattern of the killers is similar, as is similar their total disregard for world public opinion and for the fate of peace as a whole.

The American act of aggression against Libya and Pretoria's undeclared war against its neighbors are, of course, events differing in scale, but they pursue one common aim -- to deprive the peoples of developing countries of the right to decide their own future and make them subservient to imperialist will. This is the policy on which the so-called constructive engagement between Washington and Pretoria rests. This policy is a policy of state-supported terrorism. It determines today all actions of United States and South Africa on the international scene.

U.S. Forgets Vietnam

LD160558 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0252 GMT 16 Apr 86

[Mikhail Beglov commentary]

[The White House's "Vietnamese Syndrome" and "Megalomania" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 16 Apr (TASS) -- The United States has finally recovered from the "Vietnamese syndrome," the White House decided recently, and without wasting time President Reagan informed Americans about this. So that no one would have any doubts left on this score, he ordered a U.S. naval squadron to Libyan coast. The U.S. naval armada that 2 weeks ago carried out "maneuvers" in the Gulf of Sidra -- the largest the United States has assembled in one place in recent years -- made the first aggressive sortie, subjecting Libyan territory to bombardment. This obviously appeared insufficient to Washington. So, on the night of 14-15 April, the United States launched a new large-scale bombardment of Libyan towns, using not only the force of the 6th Fleet, but also strategic aircraft based in Britain.

Similar events took place 22 years ago to the east of Libya -- in the Gulf of Tonkin off the Vietnamese coast. The Gulf of Tonkin and the Gulf of Sidra are different geographical regions, the times are different, but there is an obvious link between them. On the eve of the Vietnamese aggression, U.S. intelligence staged the shelling of two U.S. Navy destroyers. This criminal "dramatization" turned into the excruciating death throes of the United States in Vietnam, death throes that began with fine sounding reports of victories in the fight against the "partisans," and ended with an interminable rows of zinc coffins passing across the air bridge from Southeast Asia. This aggression lasted for nearly 11 years. It cost the United States 58,000 lives and left an indelible stain of shame on the United States forever.

It would seem that there is only one conclusion that could be drawn from the lesson taught to the United States in Vietnam -- to prevent the same thing from happening again. However, the present U.S. Administration has interpreted the "Vietnamese syndrome" in its own way.

It is time to "cure oneself" of the fear of using U.S. military force abroad, representatives of the White House, State Department, and Pentagon have been trying to convince Americans with all their might. And by way of "treatment" they have prescribed "shock therapy" -- in small, but continually increasing doses: first, the landing of Marines in Lebanon and artillery shelling of the Lebanese coast, then the seizure of defenseless Grenada, then the sharp expansion of the undeclared war against Nicaragua for the overthrow of the legal government of that country, and finally the bombardment of Libya.

In resorting to such "therapy," and also artificially fanning chauvinism and blind patriotism, the White House is step by step repeating the path that earlier had led the United States into the abyss of the Vietnam conflict. "Even now one is reminded of the Vietnamese variant of gradual escalation," reported the Newhouse news service citing the words of an unnamed specialist in Middle East affairs.

The war in Southeast Asia and the attack on Libya are links in a single chain stretching for several decades -- the striving of the United States to dictate its own will to other countries and peoples. It is not for the "Vietnamese syndrome" that the Washington quacks need to find medicine, but for the "megalomania" which Washington now prefers to give a different name -- neoglobalism. The new name, however, does not change the basic symptoms of this disease which has long been known to mankind. These are, first, the striving to play the role of "worldwide judge," who alone in the whole world knows what is good and what is bad, and takes it upon himself personally to decide the fate of others at his own discretion. To act in this way is to disregard the sad and clear lessons of the past. And this has never brought any good to anyone.

U.S. 'Anti-Libyan Campaign' Chronicled

LD151949 Moscow TASS in English 1757 GMT 15 Apr 86

[Text] Moscow April 15 TASS -- The act of aggression launched by the USA against Libya in the early hours today is a fresh criminal action of the White House in its long anti-Libyan campaign.

In May 1981, the U.S. Administration acting on the strength of invented charges closed the Libyan Embassy in Washington and expelled the whole of its personnel from the country. Simultaneously a planned build-up was started of a campaign of slanders against Libya on a charge of her alleged involvement in so-called international terrorism.

In August 1981, two U.S. F-14 aircraft opened fire on two Libyan planes over the Gulf of Sidra.

In February 1983, two Libyan patrol fighter aircraft again came under fire of the U.S. planes on the plea that the "came close" to the aircraft carrier "Nimitz" plying off Libya's shores.

In May 1984, the CIA made an attempt to assassinate Mu'ammarr al-Qadhafi with the assistance of mercenaries from the so-called Front for the National Liberation of Libya.

The Reagan administration's anti-Libyan campaign assumed a particularly dangerous character in 1985 and in the current year.

In January 1985, a squadron of U.S. naval ships of the Sixth Fleet in the Mediterranean, among them the aircraft carrier "Eisenhower", started provocative exercises close to Libya's territorial waters.

In the summer of 1985 Washington began drawing up various plans of armed actions and designated potential targets in Libya.

Late in November 1985, i.e. soon after the Soviet-American summit meeting in Geneva, the American troops in the NATO bases and the ships of the U.S. Sixth Fleet in the Mediterranean were put on high alert, reconnaissance flights near Libya's borders were intensified. Simultaneously the U.S. Navy started "exercises" in the Gulf of Sidra in close proximity to the Libyan shores in November-December.

By January 1986, the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff had completed drawing up plans of military operations against Libya. The aircraft carrier "Coral Sea" with four squadrons of F-18 fighter-bombers on board, and together with it two cruisers, two destroyers, two frigates and an amphibious ship with eighteen hundred American Marines on board were dispatched to the Mediterranean.

Early in January 1986, the White House announced a series of discriminatory measures against Libya, including the arrest of its assets and deposits of the Government of Libya, its departments and of the Central Bank of Libya in the USA.

Late in January 1986, the bulk of the ships of the two carrier strike squadrons including the aircraft carriers "Coral Sea" and "Saratoga" dispatched from the Indian Ocean, came close to Libya's shores, thus forming a task force of 26 U.S. ships.

After a short pause in February 1986 Washington again sent the aircraft carriers "Coral Sea" and "Saratoga" to Libya's shores.

From January 24 to 31, 1986, the USA was carrying out large-scale exercises designed as a muscle flexing demonstration against Libya.

From February 12 to 15, 1986, U.S. naval exercises were held in the Mediterranean on a particularly large scale. They were accompanied with a provocative invasion of Libya's air space by U.S. aircraft.

From March 14 to 16, new, already the third, big exercises were held. The aircraft carrier "America" joined the Sixth Fleet.

From March 19 to 21, 1986, the fourth large-scale U.S. provocation was held in the guise of naval "exercises".

From March 23 to 28, 1986, the fifth military exercises, as a matter of fact, an armed operation was launched against Libya. In the small hours of March 25, the U.S. Air Force invaded Libya's air space and bombed the outskirts of the city of Sidra and a number of other objectives. The aircraft carriers "America", "Saratoga" and "Coral Sea" with nearly 240 planes on board and 40 escort ships were massed off Libya's shores. Several Libyan ships also came under fire.

On the whole since early 1981 the United States has 19 times carried out provocative "exercises" off Libya's shores. These exercises are a component part of Washington's policy of international banditry.

Taking part in the raids against Tripoli and Banghazi last night were twenty F-111, roughly 15 A-6 and A-7 aircraft, refueller and convoy aircraft.

U.S. Public Reacts

LD152231 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 15 Apr 86

[Correspondent Vladimir Dunayev report from Washington]

[Text] Last night, while the squadrons of the U.S. Navy and Air Force were committing piracy in Libya, it was early evening in the United States itself. The President had not yet appeared on television. The secretary of state and the head of the Pentagon had not yet been seen on the screen. It was exactly 1900 Washington time -- the time at which the main television news bulletin begins.

At that very moment, as though on purpose, bombs and rockets began to rain down on Tripoli and Benghazi. And special correspondents reported by telephone directly, live, how the ground was shuddering, fires were taking hold, and bombers were flying overhead.

What did Americans feel as they listened to this reportage on aggression perpetrated before their very eyes, although at night? Some went to the White House. Those living in the center of the capital went out a few minutes after the President's speech. "We are ashamed to be American! This terrorism, carried out by the United States, is dragging us into a new Vietnam!" These placards, freshly painted, were written by those who have not lost their sense of shame and retain the ability to think. This spontaneous demonstration of protest was shown on U.S. television for about 10 seconds. But then came reportage from a bar on what the man in the street thinks, showing in detail, with relish, how Americans young and old, wearing Ku Klux Klan-like smirks in front of the camera, safe behind their 6th Fleet and Rapid Deployment Force, were saying: That's just what those Libyans deserve! The President was right to hit them! We'll do it again! It will teach them to get in our way! It will show them!

Those who inculcated in Americans one of their most repellent qualities, chauvinism, have cause to be satisfied. The majority of Americans that evening were also terrorists, like their government, as in the days of the stifling of Grenada. How is it that they have succeeded in hypnotizing America? A pretext was found for international piracy. An explosion occurred in West Berlin, in a discotheque frequented by U.S. soldiers. One soldier and a girl were killed, and a few dozen people injured. President Reagan stated that, according to his information, the trail led to Libya. This was denied by the Libyan leadership. It was disbelieved by the United States' West European allies. Apart from Margaret Thatcher, not one West European government backed the aggression or gave permission for its airspace or territory to be used for banditry.

The evening of chauvinistic fervor passed quickly in the United States. This morning the first telegrams spoke of the angry, contemptuous, and censorious reaction of the entire world, including Western Europe. These cables evoked irritation and disappointment here.

Peace Committee Appeal

LD162329 Moscow in English to North America 2200 GMT 15 Apr 86

[Statement by Yuriy Zhukov, chairman of the Soviet Peace Committee]

[Text] Dear American friends: I appeal to you now as chairman of the Soviet Peace Committee, an organization that has millions of members in this country, who are as concerned about what has happened as you are.

American warships [as heard] took off from bases in Britain and from the Coral Sea and America aircraft carriers off Libya's coast to bomb residential areas of the Libyan capital. There are many casualties in Tripoli. I am aware that your press is telling you that this was an operation aimed against military targets alone, but I can assure you that this is not true. For instance, is the French Embassy in Tripoli a military target? But it was damaged by the bombs. Are the residential areas military targets? Civilians have died there. I received telephone calls from Soviet newsmen stationed in Libya and they told me that hospitals in Tripoli are running short of donor blood. The Soviet Peace Committee has just sent a telegram of protest to your President and to the United Nations. We also released a statement "Hands off Libya" calling on all peace forces around the world to launch a protest campaign over the U.S. military action in the Mediterranean, to demand an immediate end to this American aggression. Washington is playing with fire and this cannot lead to anything good. We are hoping very much that decent Americans will also protest against this barbarity.

Soviet Muslims Condemn Attack

LD152118 Moscow TASS in English 1958 GMT 15 Apr 86

[Text] Moscow April 15 TASS -- Moslem leaders of the USSR sent a protest to President of the United States Ronald Reagan. It reflects their profound concern over the new United States barbarous aggression against Libya. "Peaceful people -- among them children, women, old people -- are killed by U.S. bombs. This vicious act by the USA shows that the U.S. Administration persists with terrorism elevated to state policy," the message says. "The United States has sinned against Allah, the Islamic world and entire humanity." "The [word indistinct] condemns those who commit an aggression against peaceful people."

"We condemn this [words indistinct] and express our solidarity with the Libyan people who has become these days the victim of imperialism's hostile policy," it is stressed in the message. The document ends with words: "May Allah punish the forces of evil encroaching on peaceful life." "On behalf of Moslems of the Soviet Union we declare: hands off Libya." The protest was signed by representatives of the [word indistinct] Moslem boards guiding religious activities of Moslems in the USSR.

Leningrad Citizens 'Incensed'

LD152059 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 15 Apr 86

[Interviews with unidentified persons in Leningrad on 15 April -- recorded; from the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] [First person] I am deeply incensed by this latest provocation by the U.S. Administration against sovereign Libya, and I demand an immediate end to this vandalism.

[Second person] The high level of those people's culture is now being put to a severe test. We all express our protest and our indignation at this barbaric action carried out by U.S. imperialism.

[Third person] I have lived in Libya for 3 years. During those 3 years, there has been a continual escalation of U.S. armed activities in the Mediterranean. We were constantly expecting something to happen similar to what has been taking place during the past months. Many of my friends remain in that country. I cannot but think about them now, and of course these events sadden me. All Soviet people deeply condemn, and decisively condemn, this provocative action by the United States, which was totally unprovoked by the Libyan side.

USSR-JAPAN ECONOMIC COOPERATION COMMITTEES MEET

Talks Open in Moscow

LD151922 Moscow TASS in English 1845 GMT 15 Apr 86

[Text] Moscow April 15 TASS — "The common task of the two countries is to step up efforts to develop trade and economic relations between the USSR and Japan and to expand a search for new areas and forms of business cooperation," said Vladislav Malkevich, USSR deputy foreign trade minister. He spoke here today at an opening ceremony of the 10th joint conference of the Soviet-Japanese and Japanese-Soviet committees on economic cooperation as the head of the Soviet delegation.

In the two decades since the first joint economic conference in March 1966 in Moscow, he said, the countries have accumulated considerable experience in improving the content and forms of the entire broad system of bilateral trade and economic relations, including those in implementing major projects for developing natural resources in Siberia and the Far East. Vladislav Malkevich expressed the hope that the current joint conference attended by prominent representatives of the business communities of the two countries, would give a new impetus to the development of foreign economic ties between the USSR and Japan.

In his reply speech the head of the Japanese delegation, Ryoiti Kawai, board chairman of the major engineering company Komatsu, stated with satisfaction that at present a trend has emerged for a growth in goods turnover between the two countries. Japanese business quarters, he noted, display a great interest in the ongoing vigorous restructuring of the Soviet economy necessitated by the implementation of the new five-year plan approved by the 27th CPSU Congress. The Japanese side stands out for expanding trade, economic, scientific and technical cooperation with the USSR, in particular, for realizing major economic projects in the Far East, pointed out the head of the Japanese delegation.

A message of greetings from Mitio Watanabe, Japanese minister of international trade and industry, was read out at the opening ceremony of the joint conference. It says, inter alia, that today Japan and the USSR have an adequate potential for expanding further bilateral trade, economic, scientific and technical cooperation. To ensure a further stable development of Japanese-Soviet economic relations in future too, it is necessary to look beyond the implementation of the planned projects and to lend this cooperation an all-round character, notes the minister's message.

Today the first plenary meeting has been held at Moscow's International Trade Centre within the framework of the current negotiations. Tomorrow deliberations will be started by bilateral subcommittees where representatives of Soviet and Japanese business circles will examine prospects for cooperation on concrete areas and projects.

Ryzhkov Sends Message

LD150956 Moscow TASS in English 0838 GMT 15 Apr 86

[Text] Moscow April 15 TASS -- Nikolay Ryzhkov, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the U.S.S.R., addressed a message to the 10th anniversary joint meeting of the Soviet-Japanese and Japanese-Soviet committees for Economic Cooperation. The message said.

"Established 20 years ago, these committees played and continue playing a positive role in expanding trade and economic ties between the U.S.S.R. and Japan."

Their very founding reflected the mutual desire of our countries to develop trade and economic contacts, to promote goodneighborly relations between their people.

"Loyal to the policy of peaceful coexistence, the Soviet Union is in favor of widest possible trade and economic cooperation with all nations. This policy was reaffirmed by the 27th Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union. The decisions of the congress serve for our country as a principled foundation for the further development of economic, scientific and technical ties with other countries and for an increasing participation in the international division of labor. Business contacts and cooperation promote trust among nations with different social systems, which is especially important now when the nuclear threat looms dark over the world.

"The Soviet Union attaches great significance to strengthening genuine goodneighborliness and mutual trust with Japan, our Far Eastern neighbor. We positively appraise the shifts for the better that made themselves felt in the recent past in Soviet-Japanese relations, but this is only the beginning. Potentialities for the expansion of mutually beneficial trade and economic ties have not been used up, and it is our common task to put them to work.

"I wish the participants in the meeting success in their useful activities aimed at the further expansion of mutually beneficial cooperation and in the search for its new efficient forms.

"I would like to express the conviction that those activities will continue to deepen mutual understanding, build up trust and promote goodneighborliness between the people of our countries, to serve the cause of progress and peace."

Nakasone Greets Meeting

LD152246 Moscow TASS in English 2005 GMT 15 Apr 86

[Text] Moscow April 15 TASS -- The message of greetings from Prime Minister of Japan Yasuhiro Nakasone to the tenth joint meeting of the Soviet-Japanese and Japanese-Soviet Committees for Economic Cooperation was read out at the opening ceremony today.

In his message the prime minister points to connection between development of bilateral long-term trade and economic relations and establishment of stable political relations between the USSR and Japan, the Japanese Government's support for cooperation between organizations of the two countries in joint realisation of mutually-beneficial projects of economic development.

The prime minister expressed the hope that the meeting between representatives of Soviet and Japanese business circles would help further deepen mutual understanding between the two countries and have a great practical significance.

DRA CONDEMNS U.S. 'ADVENTURIST ACTIONS' IN LIBYA

LD152217 Moscow TASS in English 1759 GMT 15 Apr 86

[Text] Kabul April 15 TASS -- The whole world has been shocked to learn of a new criminal action by the American military committed against an independent and non-aligned state -- Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyyah, runs a statement of the Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, which has been issued here.

U.S. planes bombed residential quarters and civilian structures of Tripoli and Benghazi, killing dozens of civilians. Vast destructions were made.

Such insolent and adventurist actions of the U.S. military, the statement says, being made on the direct instruction of the U.S. President, could be qualified only as the U.S. challenge to the world community, and above all, the Muslim world.

The Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan calls upon the peoples of the governments of all Muslim countries to put up a united front and take the most urgent measures, both through the United Nations and outside it, to cut short the U.S. aggression against the Libyan people, to take retaliatory steps against the aggressor, by boycotting him politically and economically.

The U.S. policy of state terrorism, with the barbarous U.S. air raid on Libya being its fresh crying manifestation, shows for yet another time that the United States seeks hard to undermine the efforts of the peaceful countries, with the Soviet Union at the head, aimed at relaxation of tension and attaining universal disarmament.

Such actions on the part of the United States can be qualified only as an attempt to divert the attention of the world public from the Soviet peace initiatives in questions of destruction of nuclear weapons and complete termination of all nuclear tests.

U.S. military actions which are a very gross violation of international law and national sovereignty and independence of Libya, gravely imperial peace and international security of the Mediterranean area, and also the whole world.

The revolutionary Afghan people and the Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan call upon all peaceable countries and peoples to render all possible support and assistance to Libya in the face of U.S. aggression. The Afghan people, the statement stresses, pledges full solidarity with the courageous struggle waged by the Libyan people to uphold their freedom and independence, against designs of international imperialism.

SRV DENOUNCES 'BARBAROUS' U.S. BOMBING OF LIBYA

LD161040 Moscow TASS in English 0737 GMT 16 Apr 86

[Text] Hanoi April 16 TASS -- The Vietnamese people emphatically denounce the barbarous bombing of Libyan cities by U.S. warplanes, says a statement of the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. The U.S. in word condemns terrorism, but actually pursues a policy of international terrorism and aggression, of interference in the internal affairs of other countries.

Socialist Vietnam expressed support for the just struggle of the Libyan people against the encroachments of imperialism on their freedom and independence and demands that Washington immediately stop armed provocations against Libya.

WEINBERGER ASIAN TOUR SOUGHT 'MILITARIST LINKS'

LD120614 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0230 GMT 12 Apr 86

[Text] The trip by U.S. Defense Secretary Weinberger to a number of Asian and Pacific countries has now ended. He is returning to the United States today after visiting Australia, the Philippines, Thailand, Japan and South Korea. Commenting on the Pentagon chief's trip, observers have been stressing that at every stage of his journey Weinberger was striving for a strengthening of militarist links with some countries in the region and for the establishment of such ties with others. The final stage on the journey of the head of the U.S. war department was Australia. Speaking at the Press Club in Canberra, Weinberger had to admit that Australia has declined to participate in the Reagan administration's notorious Strategic Defense Initiative, which is known as the star wars program. In the course of the talks the Australian Government called on the United States to join in the treaty on a nuclear-free zone in the South Pacific.

GORBACHEV, DELEGATION DEPART FOR GDR 16 APRIL

Seen Off By Leaders

LD160659 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0630 GMT 16 Apr 86

[Text] A CPSU delegation led by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, left Moscow today for Berlin to take part in the work of the 11th SED Congress at the invitation of the SED Central Committee.

The delegation includes: Medvedyev, CPSU Central Committee secretary; Vayno, member of the CPSU Central Committee, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Estonian Communist Party; Tikhomirov, member of the Central Committee of the CPSU, lathe and drill operator of the Moscow Vladimir Ilich electro-mechanical works; Frolov, member of the CPSU Central Committee, vice president of the USSR Academy of Sciences; and Kochemasov, member of the CPSU Central Committee and USSR ambassador to the GDR.

At Vnukovo airport the delegation was seen off by: Aliyev, Vorotnikov, Zaykov, Ligachev, Ryzhkov, Solomentsev, Chebrikov, and Shevardnadze, members of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo; Dolgikh, Yeltsin, Sokolov, and Talyzin, candidate members of the CPSU Central Committee; Biryukova, Dobrynin, Zimyanin, Nikonov, Razumovskiy, and Yakovlev, secretaries of the CPSU Central Committee; Kaptinov, chairman of the Central Auditing Committee of the CPSU, and other comrades. Among those seeing the delegation off was (?Terner), charge d'affaires ad interim of the GDR in the USSR.

Honecker Welcomes Gorbachev

LD160901 Moscow TASS in English 0852 GMT 16 Apr 86

[Text] Berlin April 16 TASS -- A CPSU Delegation led by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, arrived in Berlin today to attend the 11th Congress of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany (SUPG).

At the airport the CPSU delegation was met by Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SUPG Central Committee, and other leaders of the G.D.R.

GDR FOREIGN MINISTRY CONDEMNS U.S. RAID ON LIBYA

LD152152 Moscow TASS in English 1250 GMT 15 Apr 86

[Text] Berlin 15/4/TASS -- The GDR News Agency ADN reports: A spokesman for the Foreign Ministry of the German Democratic Republic has termed the bombing of the Libyan towns of Tripoli and Benghazi by U.S. warplanes a criminal attack not to be justified by anything.

This act of violence was a flagrant violation of the most elementary norms of international coexistence, a gross contempt of the U.N. Charter and came in defiance of world public opinion. "It is more than an act of state terrorism, it is aggression," the spokesman declared.

The German Democratic Republic has condemned the bombing of the Libyan towns of Tripoli and Benghazi by U.S. warplanes.

A statement by a Foreign Ministry spokesman says, "whatever pretext the Reagan administration has cited for this criminal attack, it cannot be justified by anything. This act of violence is a flagrant violation of the most elementary norms of international coexistence, a gross contempt of the U.N. Charter and has come in defiance of world public opinion. It is more than an act of state terrorism, it is aggression.

"Peace and security in the region and the world are threatened to a dangerous extent. Not irresponsible military action but transforming the Mediterranean into a zone of stable peace and international security are stringent."

In this situation everything had to be done to prevent further acts of aggression bound to lead to military escalation, the GDR Foreign Ministry spokesman said. Statesmanship and circumspection on the part of all bearing responsibility were necessary.

The statement went on to say, "the GDR most emphatically condemns the use of military force. It firmly sides with the Libyan people. Nobody must violate the sovereignty, territorial integrity and independence of others -- in this case the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya. It expresses deep-felt sympathy with the innocent victims of the criminal raid."

Honecker on U.S. Attack

LD152237 Moscow TASS in English 1905 GMT 15 Apr 86

[Text] Berlin April 15 TASS -- The situation in the Middle East, which had been tense over a few years, threatens to entail uncontrolled consequences, following the U.S. bombing of Libya's territory, said here today Erich Honecker, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany, chairman of the Council of State of the GDR.

Speaking at the Ernest Thaelmann Park-and monument-opening ceremony, he noted that not only the whole of the Arab world but also all mankind call upon the American Administration to display reason. Ill-considered actions might lead to consequences that would imperil all mankind, said the GDR leader.

PZPR POLITBURO EXPRESSES 'INDIGNATION' OVER U.S. RAID

LD152305 Moscow TASS in English 2222 GMT 15 Apr 86

[Text] Warsaw April 16 TASS -- A session of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers' Party held here today has expressed profound indignation and concern over the raids of U.S. planes against the Libyan territory. A statement circulated here says that the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers' Party voices all-out solidarity with the Libyan people and demands the termination of the aggression.

Polish Spokesman Remarks

LD152241 Moscow TASS in English 1407 GMT 15 Apr 86

[Text] Warsaw, April 15 TASS -- The U.S. aggression against Libya is defiance to the entire international community and a striking example of the U.S. Government's contempt for and disregard of the world public opinion, spokesman for the Government of the Polish People's Republic Jerzy Urban said at a press conference here today. He read out the statement of the Government of the Polish People's Republic in connection with the United States armed aggression against Libya. It is pointed out in the document that the aggression had been launched on personal order from President Reagan, contrary to the fundamental norms of international law and the principles of the United Nations Charter.

This was an unprovoked and absolutely unjustifiable act of gross piracy, another manifestation of state terrorism by the present U.S. Administration, an act of the use of force by a great power against a sovereign Arab state, member of the United Nations Organisation and the Nonaligned Movement.

The Government of the Polish People's Republic, the statement says, condemns resolutely the U.S. aggression which poses a threat to European security and universal peace and demands that it immediately be ended, demands that the United States respect Libya's sovereignty and the Libyan people's right to independent development.

CSSR FOREIGN MINISTRY DENOUNCES U.S. ATTACK ON LIBYA

LD152251 Moscow TASS in English 2041 GMT 15 Apr 86

[Text] Prague April 15 TASS -- The United States Administration perpetrated a pre-planned act of state terrorism against sovereign Libya despite protests of the world public and ignoring the views of realistically thinking politicians in Western Europe, it is said in a statement issued by Czechoslovakia's Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

This armed attack on a sovereign state is a violation of the basic norms of international law and the United Nations Charter. There can be no justification for the American aggressive action. It jeopardises peace not only in the Mediterranean but also in other parts of the world. The United States aggression is a manifestation of the essence of the imperialist course pursued by the present American Administration that is implementing in practice its proclaimed policy of neoglobalism.

The United States Administration has committed an act of aggression at a time when the Soviet Union has come out with far-reaching peace initiatives, the statement stresses.

The people and Government of Czechoslovakia, which have traditional and long-established bonds of close friendship with the Libyan people, firmly denounce the barbarous American air raids against Libyan cities.

Czechoslovakia expresses full support for the struggle of the Libyan people which has risen to the defence of its country, it is stressed in the statement of the Czechoslovak Foreign Ministry.

ROMANIA 'INDIGNANT' OVER U.S. AIR STRIKES

Ceausescu Sends Reagan Message

LD152244 Moscow TASS in English 1411 GMT 15 Apr 86

[Text] Bucharest, April 15 TASS -- The Romanian people are indignant at the barbarous bombing by U.S. Air Force of the capital of the Libyan Jamahiriyah, a free and independent country, member of the United Nations Organisation, and condemns resolutely the United States actions, says the message that President of the Socialist Republic of Romania Nicolae Ceausescu sent to President of the United States Ronald Reagan today.

The Socialist Republic of Romania views this bombing as an act of unjustified aggression against the free and sovereign Libyan people, as a gross violation of norms of international life, principles of relations among states and the United Nations Charter. The problems existing between the United States and Libya should be decided through talks, not by military force. The message urges the President of the United States to take the necessary measures to stop bombings and aggressive actions by the United States against Libya.

Foreign Ministry Cited

LD161104 Moscow TASS in English 0921 GMT 16 Apr 86

[Text] Bucharest April 16 TASS -- According to AGERPRES news agency, the Foreign Affairs Ministry of Romania has stated the position of the government of the Socialist Republic of Romania in connection with the U.S. attack on Libya. The document expresses grave concern of the Romanian people over this act of aggression against an independent and sovereign state and stresses the need to defuse the extremely dangerous situation in the Mediterranean and put an end to the U.S. military actions.

BULGARIA CRITICIZES 'UNPROVOKED' U.S. ATTACKS

LD152248 Moscow TASS in English 2026 GMT 15 Apr 86

[Text] Sofia April 15 TASS -- The Bulgarian people has learned with indignation and profound concern about the totally unprovoked United States attack on Libya, it is said in a statement of the Bulgarian Government distributed here today. This aggressive act against a sovereign state clearly reveals the essence of the policy of "neoglobalism" pursued by the American Administration and expressing itself in the flagrant use of force, in disregard for the sovereignty of peoples, the United Nations Charter and generally recognised norms of international law and morality. Bulgaria firmly condemns the new act of state terrorism by the United States against the friendly Libyan Jamahiriyah and insists that the American Administration stop the aggressive actions threatening peace not only in the Mediterranean but also in the whole world, the statement stresses.

SFRY PRESIDENCY: U.S. RAID 'VIOLATION OF SOVEREIGNTY'

LD151426 Moscow TASS in English 1403 GMT 15 Apr 86

["Yugoslavia Denounces US Aggression Against Libya" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Belgrade April 15 TASS -- The collective Presidency of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia has denounced the U.S. armed aggression against Libya. A statement issued here stresses that the act is a gross violation of sovereignty and territorial integrity of an independent and non-aligned state, it poses a grave threat to security and stability in that region and the whole world. The policy from the position of strength and military intervention cannot be the means of solution of any problem whatsoever in international relations.

The collective presidency stressed the need of immediate termination of U.S. aggressive military operations and participation of the international community, the non-aligned countries, the United Nations Organization and the Security Council in the efforts to bring back peace and stability to that region with the observance of the principle of independence and territorial integrity of Libyan Jamahiriyah.

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON CARLSSON'S USSR VISIT

Holds Talks With Ryzhkev

LD151335 Moscow TASS in English 1116 GMT 15 Apr 86

[Text] Moscow April 15 TASS -- The Soviet-Swedish talks opened in the Grand Kremlin Palace today. They are conducted by Nikolay Ryzhkov, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the Council of Ministers of the U.S.S.R, and Ingvar Carlsson, prime minister of Sweden.

The head of the Swedish Government arrived in Moscow yesterday on an official visit at the invitation of the Soviet Government.

Agreements Signed

LD152033 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 15 Apr 86

[Report from the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] Talks took place today between Comrade Ryzhkov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and Carlsson, prime minister of Sweden. During the talks, the coincidence of the positions of the USSR and Sweden on a number of important international problems, providing an objective basis for cooperation between the two countries in the interests of peace and security, was noted with satisfaction.

During a discussion of questions in bilateral relations, Comrade Ryzhkov stressed that considerable significance is attached in the USSR to the further activation of mutually advantageous Soviet-Swedish cooperation, which would fully meet with the peace-loving aspirations of the two countries and would be part of the general prospects for strengthening trust in the world.

During the visit, an exchange of letters took place regarding the extension of the long-term agreement on trade up to the year 1995. The signing of a Soviet-Swedish inter-governmental agreement on mutual protection of copyright took place. On the eve of the visit, an exchange of letters took place on extending the term of the cooperation program in the fields of culture, science, and education. [Video shows documents being signed. Soviet signatory is not identified. Among those standing are Ryzhkov, Talyzin, Aliyev, and Arkhipov]

Talks Summarized

LD151903 Moscow TASS in English 1836 GMT 15 Apr 86

[Text] Moscow April 15 TASS -- Talks were held today between the Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers Nikolay Ryzhkov and the Prime Minister of Sweden Ingvar Carlsson, who is staying in the Soviet Union on an official visit.

It was noted with satisfaction during the talks that the positions of the USSR and Sweden on a number of important international problems coincide and that this creates an objective basis for interaction by the two countries in the interests of peace and security. Much attention was devoted from both sides to the American air attack against Libya which is a most flagrant violation of the United Nations Charter and creates a serious threat to universal peace and security.

Nikolay Ryzhkov noted Sweden's active role as a participant in international agreements in the field of disarmament, its place in the group of countries of the "Delhi six" coming out with initiatives to scale down the nuclear arms race and also the positive Swedish position on questions of scaling down military confrontation on a regional basis, a position that enhances the strengthening of peace and security in Europe.

When views on international problems were exchanged Ingvar Carlsson confirmed Sweden's striving further to contribute to the attainment of the aims of peace and disarmament, to exert every effort to scale down and remove the threat of a nuclear war. On behalf of the Swedish Government Ingvar Carlsson positively assessed the Soviet programme of the stage-by-stage liquidation of nuclear arms by the year 2000. He also reiterated that Sweden comes out for a peaceful outer space, for preventing it from becoming a sphere of military confrontation. The Swedish prime minister noted that the ending of all nuclear tests can and must become an important step along the road to ridding mankind of nuclear arms.

When questions of bilateral relations were discussed Nikolay Ryzhkov stressed that the USSR attaches much importance to the further invigoration of mutually advantageous Soviet-Swedish cooperation that would fully accord with the peaceful strivings of the two countries and would fit in the overall perspective of strengthening trust in the world.

During the visit letters on extending the long-term trade agreement to the year 1995 were exchanged and a Soviet-Swedish inter-governmental agreement was signed on the mutual protection of copyrights.

On the eve of the visit letters were exchanged on extending the term of the programme of cooperation in the field of culture, science and education.

Lomeyko on Swedish Policy

LD151628 Moscow TASS in English 1611 GMT 15 Apr 86

[Text] Moscow April 15 TASS -- The visit of Swedish Prime Minister Ingvar Carlsson is an important event in the Soviet-Swedish relations. It will contribute to a further development of goodneighbourly relations between our two states, Vladimir Lomeyko, head of the Press Department of the USSR Foreign Ministry, said today. He was addressing a briefing for Soviet and foreign newsmen here.

The determination of both countries to preserve and strengthen peace, to curb the arms race and prevent nuclear war, to develop comprehensive mutually beneficial ties in various fields make the firm basis of the Soviet-Swedish relations of goodneighbourliness.

The Soviet Union respects Sweden's independence and territorial integrity, and gives due credit to Sweden's neutrality policy, which is viewed, with good reason, as an important factor of stability and peace in Nordic Europe.

Sweden is making an essential contribution to the holding in Stockholm of the Conference on Confidence and Security Building Measures and Disarmament in Europe, and consistently adheres to the idea of creating a nuclear-free zone in Nordic Europe.

Sweden's proposal that a zone free from nuclear tactical battlefield weapons be created in Europe has attracted much attention and is broadly known.

This initiative of Sweden was supported by the Soviet Union and other countries, which believe that the creation of nuclear-free zones in various parts of Europe is one of the ways to rid the whole continent of nuclear weapons, both of tactical and medium-range ones.

The closeness and at times concurrence of the stands of our states on a number of international issues, the common interest in trade, economic and cultural exchanges make a reliable basis for strengthening relations, Vladimir Lomeyko stressed.

Answering the questions of newsmen, Yevgeniy Rymko, deputy head of the department of the Scandinavian countries of the USSR Foreign Ministry, pointed out the great significance of the all-round development of mutually beneficial Soviet-Swedish relations in various fields. In the course of the Swedish prime minister's visit to the USSR contracts in various economic fields worth a total of 500 million Swedish kronor are to be signed, Yevgeniy Rymko emphasised.

Shevardnadze Attends Dinner

LD160448 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1904 GMT 15 Apr 86

[Text] On behalf of the USSR Government, a dinner was given in honor of Prime Minister Ingvar Carlsson and his wife today in the Great Kremlin Palace, officials accompanying Carlsson on the visit were also present.

Present on the Soviet side were Comrade Ryzhkov and his wife; Comrades Aliyev; Shevardnadze; Talyzin; Arkhipov and Murakhovskiy, deputy chairmen of the USSR Council of Ministers; ministers of the USSR, chairmen of state committees of the USSR, and other officials.

At the dinner, speeches were delivered by Comrade Ryzhkov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and Ingvar Carlsson. The speeches by Comrade Ryzhkov and Carlsson were listened to attentively and greeted with applause.

The dinner took place in a friendly atmosphere.

Ryzhkov Dinner Speech

LD151643 Moscow TASS in English 1627 GMT 15 Apr 86

[Text] Moscow April 15 TASS -- A dinner in honour of the Prime Minister of Sweden Ingvar Carlsson and Mrs. Carlsson was held today on behalf of the USSR Government in the Grand Kremlin Palace. Together with Ingvar Carlsson the dinner was attended by the officials accompanying him in his visit. Present from the Soviet side were Nikolay Ryzhkov and his wife, Geydar Aliyev, Eduard Shevardnadze, Nikolay Talyzin and other officials.

A speech was made at the dinner by Nikolay Ryzhkov, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR:

Esteemed Minister Prime Minister and Mrs. Carlsson.

Esteemed Swedish guests.

Comrades.

It is with much satisfaction that we note the important event in Soviet-Swedish relations - the visit by the prime minister of Sweden to the Soviet Union. I extend heartfelt greetings again to the head of the Swedish Government, to Mrs. Carlsson and also to the Swedish statesmen and politicians who have come with them and to the personages accompanying them.

We are neighbours and no disputes or outstanding problems exist between us that would prevent us from basing our relations on the firm foundation of equality, mutual respect of sovereignty and non-interference in each other's internal affairs. Every reason exists for Soviet-Swedish relations always to be an example of goodneighbourhood.

Soviet people have friendly feelings for the people of Sweden, respect them for their great industriousness and skills, for their considerable achievements in developing the national economy, science and culture, for their peaceableness.

The Soviet Union and Sweden have accumulated extensive and useful experience of co-operation in various fields. The traditions of the goodneighbourly intercourse of our peoples are an embodiment of the efforts of many politicians and statesmen, representatives of the public and the business community, of people of various professions. Vivid pages of the activity of the founder of our socialist state - Vladimir Ilich Lenin - are linked with Sweden.

Of course, we represent two different social systems, two ways of life, but we are living on a single planet and must coexist in a single world - such is reality and there is no escaping it.

The great common aim - the prevention of nuclear catastrophe and preservation of human civilisation - is now bringing nations and states closer together than ever before. Any actions contradicting this aim are fraught with tremendous danger for the peoples.

It was thus that the whole world reacted to today's criminal attack by American aviation against Libya. This act of aggression, which cannot have any justification, is a manifestation of disregard for the interests of small states and peoples and flouts the United Nations Charter that prohibits the use of force in international relations. The Soviet Government resolutely condemns this bandit action against Libya and demands an immediate end to it.

The peoples of our countries are united by striving for peace, for the ending of the arms race, for the creation of normal conditions for international cooperation. And it was with satisfaction that we noted the statements by representatives of the Swedish state leadership that your country wants to have good and stable relations with the Soviet Union and that the visit by the prime minister of Sweden to the USSR is taking place in accordance with the desire of the broad majority of the Swedish people to have friendly relations with all of its neighbours.

During the meeting that you have just had with the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev and also during the Soviet-Swedish talks in the Kremlin, Mr. Prime Minister, you could have seen for yourself that the Soviet Union sincerely wants goodneighbourly relations with Sweden on the basis of the immutable and fair principles of peaceful coexistence.

As it was stressed in the Political Report of the CPSU Central Committee to the 27th party congress, for us peaceful coexistence is a political course that the Soviet Union intends undeviatingly to pursue further. This policy presupposes an extensive development of economic, scientific-technical and cultural cooperation with other countries regardless of their social system. Naturally, this fully applies to Sweden as well.

Our trade and economic ties have a sound basis. It was laid by the long-term programme of developing economic, industrial and scientific-technical cooperation in the period till the year 1990 and the long-term agreement on trade. We have just exchanged letters on extending the latter for ten years. We regard the accords on the expansion and enrichment of our ties in various fields that we have reached in the course of the talks as one of the important results of the Swedish prime minister's visit to the Soviet Union.

Overall, the content of the Soviet Union's external economic ties is determined by the guidelines for its economic and social development in the new five-year-plan period and the period till the year 2000 and by the strategy of accelerating the country's social and economic development incorporated in these guidelines. We think that Sweden, its business circles which are prepared to cooperate with us on the basis of mutual advantage and equality have every possibility to strengthen their positions in the trade with our country.

We welcome the arrival in Moscow simultaneously with the head of the Swedish Government of a group of Swedish industrialists and businessmen with many of whom we have had the opportunity to become acquainted in Stockholm recently. I have had the opportunity already to say that as it solves the tasks of raising the efficiency of production and accelerating scientific and technological progress the Soviet Union makes serious demands of the quality and technical standard of the products it purchases on the foreign market. This is the main bearing for our trade partners who count on success in doing business with Soviet organisations.

Esteemed Mister Prime Minister,

It appears to us that the Soviet Union and Sweden have good possibilities for developing cooperation both in the economic sphere and in international affairs, first of all in questions of strengthening peace and achieving a radical improvement of the international situation.

We hold that the thoughts expressed in the messages of the leaders of six countries to the leaders of the Soviet Union and the United States echo in many ways the theses of the Soviet concept of security through disarmament, the major foreign policy initiatives outlined in the January 15 statement by the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and at the 27th Congress of the CPSU. Olof Palme, a champion of peace, disarmament and extensive international cooperation of world renown who has done much for the development of goodneighbourly relations between Sweden and the Soviet Union, was one of the authors of these messages.

The prohibition of nuclear weapon tests is one of the most urgent tasks to which the world public's attention is attracted these days. As you know, it was already last summer that the Soviet Union announced a unilateral ending of all nuclear explosions till the end of the year and persistently called on the United States Administration to join this initiative. Twice, including once in response to an appeal of the leaders of the six countries, we extended our moratorium although for understandable reasons this was not a simple matter for us. And all this time we were giving the American side a chance to confirm in deeds and not in words its statements about its striving for a nuclear-free world.

But this did not happen. Despite worldwide protests and contrary to the will of peoples a new nuclear explosion was carried out and became an open challenge not only to the Soviet Union but also to the world as a whole.

This compelled the Soviet union to consider itself free of the unilateral moratorium. But, as before, we express readiness to return at any moment to the question of a mutual moratorium on nuclear explosions if the United States Government declares that it will refrain from the conduct of such explosions.

The Soviet Union is ready for an immediate commencement of talks -- bilateral, tripartite or multilateral -- on the prohibition of nuclear tests. My country will not slacken its efforts in this question in the interests of the cause of peace.

Tribute is paid in the Soviet Union to Sweden's active stand, to its initiatives with which it comes out both on its own and together with other countries of the "Delhi six", as well as in the group of neutral and nonaligned countries with the aims of preserving peace, curbing the arms race and stopping nuclear tests. This applies also to the proposals to create nuclear-free zones in the north of Europe and in central Europe. It is clear that it is impossible to achieve greater stability on the European Continent by stepping up the militaristic bloc policy pursued by NATO. The Soviet Union has always come out and continues to come out for an expansion of peaceful cooperation with the countries of northern Europe and for a joint search of such solutions that would accord with the interests of mutual security.

In conclusion I would like to express confidence that the visit by the prime minister of Sweden to the Soviet Union, his conversations and talks covering a broad range of international problems and bilateral ties will help make a better use of the existing possibilities to invigorate relations of trust and goodneighbourhood between the USSR and Sweden. This will accord with the fundamental interests of both countries, the cause of peace and international cooperation.

I wish the very best to you, Mister Prime Minister, to Mrs Carlsson, to all our Swedish guests, and prosperity and progress to the friendly people of Sweden.

Carlsson Address Noted

LD152143 Moscow TASS in English 2116 GMT 15 Apr 86

[Text] Moscow April 15 TASS -- Sweden has a big interest in maintaining good relations with all countries, especially with its neighbours, including with the Soviet Union. This was stated by the Prime Minister of Sweden Ingvar Carlsson. He spoke tonight at a dinner held in his honour by the Soviet Government in the Kremlin. We want to develop these relations on the sound basis of mutual respect of each other's sovereignty and territorial integrity, he said.

Noting the growth in recent years of the strategic importance of northern Europe and saying that for this reason that region has become more directly affected by the contradictions between the blocs of the great powers, the head of the Swedish Government stressed that all countries should be interested in this region remaining an area of low tension.

Sweden wishes to facilitate the lessening of international tension and disarmament by coming out with initiatives at the United Nations Organisation and the disarmament conference in Geneva, Ingvar Carlsson said. He also stated Sweden's striving to take part actively and constructively in the process of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe and in the work of the Conference on Confidence and Security-Building Measures and Disarmament, that has been held in Stockholm since 1984 within the CSCE framework.

"The initiative with which Olof Palme came out together with the leaders of five other countries from various continents is yet another example of our will to facilitate disarmament in the world", Ingvar Carlsson stated. He stressed that no task was more important today than that of averting a nuclear catastrophe.

The head of the Swedish Government declared for the further development of bilateral relations with the Soviet Union in many fields.

He said that in the field of science and technology bilateral ties could be more extensively developed by expanding direct contacts between academies, scientific institutions and scientists of the two countries.

Ingvar Carlsson also pointed to the possibilities for widening and deepening ties in the sphere of culture. He stressed that yesterday's exchange of letters between appropriate instances of Sweden and the USSR was a heartening and concrete manifestation of these possibilities.

New agreements on coastal trade and crediting for the stimulation of economic cooperation between the two countries were concluded last year. "This has already influenced the statistics of commerce", Ingvar Carlsson said. "We have just extended the operation of the agreement on trade that has been signed here ten years ago. Alongside bilateral agreements on economic, scientific and technical cooperation it laid down a good foundation to count on the construction of large dairy plants, enterprises for the manufacture of cellulose, building materials, and other large Swedish deliveries for the Soviet industry. In the recent years the Soviet Union has risen to third place among the suppliers of oil to Sweden, Ingvar Carlsson said. "We would also welcome the widening of the list of our imports from the USSR", he said.

The principles of cooperation among European states recorded in the Final Act of the Helsinki Conference should be not viewed in the European context alone and discussed only at international conferences, the speaker said. They should also be consistently applied in daily bilateral communication between governments, institutions, enterprises and particularly in human contacts. "Despite all the distinction between our political, economic and social systems, these principles offer a concerted guiding line for the development of our bilateral ties to mutual benefit", Ingvar Carlsson said.

In this connection he emphasized particularly the importance that the Swedish Government, Riksdag and the Swedish public attach to matters of cooperation in the humanitarian sphere and declared for the facilitation of human contacts across the borders of the two countries, which would be an important contribution to the strengthening of friendship between the Soviet and Swedish peoples.

Ingvar Carlsson expressed the hope that the USSR and Sweden will soon reach through talks the decision on the question of the delimitation of their economic zones in the Baltic on the basis of the principles of international law. He emphasized that this agreement would help improve the potentialities of the two countries in environmental protection and conservation of fish stocks in the given sea area.

"Present-day technology brought neighbours closer together and offered an opportunity to create such a dense network of contacts and exchanges which the previous generations did not deem possible", Ingvar Carlsson said in conclusion. "Our duty is to use the existing possibilities correctly to the benefit of the peoples of our countries, to ensure by means of wise statemanship and diplomacy that the closeness should lead to contacts, not to frictions. This applies to all countries, large and small. This applies also to our two countries".

W. EUROPEANS REACT TO U.S. ACTIONS AGAINST LIBYA

FRG Greens 'Condemn' Attack

LD151759 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1700 GMT 15 Apr 86

[Text] Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, today received a delegation of the FRG Green Party in the Kremlin. The delegation includes the party's co-chairmen, Lukas Beckmann, Jutta Dithfurth, Rainer Tampert, and Norbert Kostede a member of the party's leadership.

During the conversation, most of the attention was devoted to questions of the international situation and discussion of prospects for improving it. Both sides severely condemned the U.S. aggression against independent Libya, a sovereign Arab state situated thousands of miles from the shores of America.

The participants in the conversation were unanimous that the situation which has arisen demands that all political and public forces should act tangibly and speedily to curb the arms race, in the name of the preservation of life.

The sides declared themselves in favor of the development of mutually beneficial cooperation between the USSR and the FRG on the basis of the Moscow Agreement, and that the security interests of both countries should be taken into account. The conversation took place in constructive and friendly atmosphere.

Bundestag Deputies Denounce Attack

LD151953 Moscow TASS in English 1721 GMT 14 Apr 86

[Text] Bonn April 15 TASS -- The U.S. armed attack on Libya provides evidence of how little the Reagan administration heeds the opinion of its West European allies, said Hans-Jochen Vogel, chairman of the faction of the Social Democratic Party of Germany in the Bundestag.

No sooner the EEC foreign ministers warned Washington against military interference, than the United States hit a strike on Libya, the state situated at the very threshold of Europe [sentence as received].

The raid of U.S. bombers on Tripoli and Benghazi is an act of international terrorism which cannot be justified, said Anne-Marie Borgmann, a representative of the parliamentary faction of the "Greens" party.

Under the pretext of "struggle against terrorism" the U.S. Administration itself commits terrorist acts against other countries, she said. Anne-Marie Borgmann called upon the FRG Government to denounce without delay the U.S. actions as steps imperilling peace and place a ban on any use of military and civilian structures on the FRG territory for military actions against third countries.

Bundestag deputy from the "Greens" party Roland Vogt described the U.S. aggression against Libya as an act of "unprecedented barbarity". The parliamentary faction of that party called upon the West German peace champions to hold demonstrations in all big cities of the country today in protest against the U.S. interventionist policy. The "Greens" demanded that the question be submitted to the Bundestag for discussion.

Austria Expresses Concern

LD152249 Moscow TASS in English 2002 GMT 15 Apr 86

[Text] Vienna, April 15 TASS -- The Austrian Federal Government has already expressed in the past its profound concern over the heightening of tension in the western Mediterranean and the threat of the escalation stemming from this, says a statement of the Austrian Government, published here. U.S. military actions against targets in Tripoli and Benghazi show in a horrifying way how justifiable this concern has been. The Federal Government is convinced that settlement of contradictions should be sought in other ways than the use of military force. Experience shows that such methods lead not to the settlement of problems and to tranquility but to new tension and danger.

While categorically condemning any terrorism, the Federal Government waits for a return to peaceful means of ending disputes for only in this way can the use of force be avoided, the statement says.

Sweden Circulates Statement

LD152245 Moscow TASS in English 2028 GMT 15 Apr 86

[Text] Stockholm April 15 TASS -- A statement of the Swedish Government in connection with the United States armed attack against Libya has been distributed here.

The American action, the document says, contradicts international law which is reflected, in particular, in the United Nations Charter. All conflicts should be solved by peaceful means. Attacking the territory of another state at a time of peace runs counter to the norms regulating relations between countries.

The Swedish Government, the statement points out, regards the above-mentioned American action with all seriousness. Recent events have created a dangerous situation in the Mediterranean area, this being fraught with the danger of far-reaching international consequences.

France's Raimond Cited

LD151344 Moscow TASS in English 1213 GMT 15 Apr 86

[Text] Paris April 15 TASS -- The American operation against Libya will result in an escalation of violence, says a statement by Jean-Bernard Raimond, France's minister for external relations, published here today. At the same time he expressed the opinion that the U.S. action was prompted by growing terrorism.

The minister said that the U.S. intervention against Libya was carried out in accordance with the American Administration's decision. He recalled that the U.S. Air Force planes were not allowed to use French air space to fly towards Libya.

Danish Minister Regrets Attack

LD152247 Moscow TASS in English 2030 GMT 15 Apr 86

[Text] Copenhagen April 15 TASS -- The Danish Foreign Minister Uffe Ellemann-Jensen has condemned the United States aggression against Libya. In an interview to Danish radio he stated that Denmark should dissociate itself from this armed attack. International problems should be solved by peaceful means, the minister stressed. He expressed regret that instead of a political solution Washington had resorted to military means.

Belgian Minister Expresses 'Surprise'

LD151323 Moscow TASS in English 1110 GMT 15 Apr 86

[Text] Brussels April 15 TASS -- Belgium condemned today the U.S. piratic actions against Libya. Belgium's foreign affairs minister, Leo Tindemans, speaking in an interview with a radio and TV company expressed surprise and profound regret over the bombing of Tripoli and Banghazi, carried out last night by U.S. military planes.

Leo Tindemans said that EEC member countries were holding urgent consultations at present in order to issue a protest to Washington against the act of aggression against sovereign Libya. The head of the Belgian Foreign Affairs Ministry regretted that the Reagan administration had failed to heed the call to refrain from armed actions in the Mediterranean, made by Common Market foreign affairs ministers at their urgent meeting in the Hague on Monday.

Leo Tindemans branded Britain's position in the U.S. conflict against Libya as double game.

COMMENTS ON BRITISH INVOLVEMENT IN U.S. ATTACK

Called 'Third Aircraft Carrier'

LD151332 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1151 GMT 15 Apr 86

["The Third Aircraft Carrier Off the Coast of Libya" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 15 Apr (TASS) -- TASS Political Observer Aleksey Grigoryev writes: The armada of the U.S. 6th Fleet, which has embarked on armed aggression against sovereign Libya, includes the aircraft carriers Coral Sea and America. In fact, there are not two aircraft carriers, but three. A direct part in Washington's bandit venture in the Mediterranean has been played by the "unsinkable aircraft carrier" -- Britain -- which gave permission for the U.S. air bases situated on its territory to be used for the attack on Libya.

Several hours before the aggression, the Pentagon transferred to British soil KC-10 refuelling aircraft to enable the F-111 bombers, also based in Britain, to carry out their piratical raid on Libya. Given that it was precisely these aircraft, and not the slower Intruder bombers based on the U.S. aircraft carriers in the Mediterranean that delivered the strike on Libyan civilian targets, Britain cannot be considered nothing other than a direct accomplice in the U.S. aggression.

The Conservatives in power in Britain have thus become the only government in Western Europe to give not only political backing to the Reagan administration's barbaric actions in the Mediterranean but also direct assistance. At first, London tried to make the best of a bad job; contradictory reports appeared in the press about Whitehall's position in the situation of alarm created by Washington concerning Libya. British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher blatantly gave the appearance of not being completely convinced by the exhortations of Vernon Walters. The White House emissary and the United States' permanent UN representative and former deputy director of the CIA, who had made a tour of West European capitals on the eve of the aggression to drum up support.

But when it came to the crunch, the masks were cast aside. "Did Prime Minister Thatcher give approval for the F-111's to take off from British territory?", U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger was asked at a White House press conference on 14 April, immediately after the start of the U.S. aggression. "Yes, permission was given," he replied. "Mrs Thatcher cleared the way for President Reagan to use the British bases to deliver another large-scale air strike against Libya," said the London paper THE SUNDAY MAIL.

But the dangerous decision by Margaret Thatcher's cabinet, which became the bombing of Libyan cities, has caused a bombshell in British political life. "Shadow" Foreign Secretary Denis Healey has called the actions of the Conservative Government "a scandalous betrayal of Thatcher's pledges to the British people and fresh example of the fact that she is obediently following every zigzag and twist in President Reagan's policies.

And so in the British Isles the actions of Margaret Thatcher and her cabinet have been exactly and fully summed up as dangerous complicity in Washington's military ventures and an ever more blatant refusal to take an independent line on the international scene.

Nation in 'Total Isolation'

LD152257 Moscow in English to Great Britain and Ireland 1900 GMT 15 Apr 86

[Nikolay Gorshkov commentary]

[Text] London's consent to the use of British territory as a springboard for United States attacks against Libya made Britain an accomplice in American aggression.

London's partners in the European Community have every reason to be shocked. Just a day earlier at The Hague, the British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe (?had claimed) to fully share the views of his West European allies who were unanimous in calling on Washington to refrain from military action and look for a political settlement of the dispute with Libya.

It has now transpired, however, that at the very same time, American F-111 strategic bombers at their bases in Lakenheath, Mildenhall and Upper Heyford were being prepared for combat sorties on Libyan targets. None of President Reagan's European allies knew about (?this move), with the exception of Prime Minister Thatcher. It is hardly surprising, therefore, that Sir Geoffrey's Berlin colleague now suspects London of having played a double game. And the West German opposition has demanded an explanation of [words indistinct]. It took Bonn completely unaware, just as it did other West European capitals.

As a result, as the French news agency says, Britain has found herself in total isolation in Western Europe. (?Britain diplomacy's) only consolation is the unqualified support that this aggressive act has received from Israel. But whereas that sworn enemy of the Arabs could hardly be expected to display any other attitude, it would seem London should have been guided at least by the security interests of the 5,000 British nationals working in Libya.

True, it's hard to tell if Britain had any chance at all of preventing the use of British territory for Washington's act of aggression. American military bases in British territory receive their orders directly from the Pentagon, which has never minced words about the destiny of British attempts to secure a dual key arrangement.

The logic of what is termed the Angola-American special relationship has thus led the United Kingdom into the aggressors' camp. The question is why Washington decided to use its British bases after rejecting all the arguments of the allies on the pretext that it was carrying out a purely national operation. These bases are thousands of miles away from the target, whereas off the Libyan coast Washington had an armada of warships.

The BBC speculated the other day that Washington was desperately looking for a partner to give its aggression the respectable image of a collective action. When Paris and Madrid, for example, understood what Washington was up to, they flatly forbade the British-based American bombers to pass over French and Spanish territory.

We don't want to see Rambo in Libya! This is what Americans chanted in front of the White House on Tuesday. But Rambo seems to have decided to break through and ignore West European public opinion. This is food for thought to the Britons first of all, because in addition to F-111's there are United States nuclear missiles based in their country. And these have no dual key either.

Parliament Reaction Noted

LD152055 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 15 Apr 86

[Sorokin report from the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] As is known, the Libyan towns of Tripoli and Benghazi underwent an air strike from U.S. military bases on Great Britain territory. Here above all, we are talking about the bases at Lakenheath and Upper Heyford, where 150 F-111 aircraft of the U.S. Air Force are based [map on screen showing bases marked with arrows].

It was reported that yesterday evening Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher gave her agreement to these bases being used to carry out this bandit action. At the same time, it became known here that France did not give the U.S. aircraft permission to fly over its country's territory. They had to take a longer route. The attention of virtually everyone in Britain is focussed on that moment. What has been the reaction in the country? The leader of the Labour Party, Neil Kinnock, said that the U.S. actions were totally unjustified. [Social Democratic Party] leader, David Owen, demanded an explanation of why the head of the British Government allowed her country to be dragged into this U.S. action.

Cyprus on Use of Bases

LD152238 Moscow TASS in English 1213 GMT 15 Apr 86

[Text] Nicosia April 15 TASS -- TASS correspondent Vsevolod Polonskiy reports:

The Government of Cyprus has warned Britain that the British military bases on the island should not be used against other countries.

The Government of Cyprus made this warning after a report that the British bases in Cyprus will be used by U.S. military aircraft to conduct a strike against Libya. A government spokesman confirmed that Foreign Minister Yeoryios Iakovou met with the British high commissioner in Cyprus and brought to his knowledge the stand of his government that the British military bases in Cyprus cannot be used against friendly neighbouring countries and also for the purposes which may jeopardize security, life or interests of the people of Cyprus, the Republic of Cyprus or the region as a whole.

U.S. F-111 BOMBER MAKES 'FORCED LANDING' IN SPAIN

LD152041 Moscow TASS in English 2034 GMT 15 Apr 86

[Text] Rome April 15 TASS -- An American "F-111" fighter-bomber today made a forced landing at the United States naval base in Rota, Spain. This was announced by the Spanish Defence Ministry.

DETAILS OF U.S. RAID REPORTED; STATEMENTS CITED

UN Security Council Meets

LD151745 Moscow TASS in English 1709 GMT 15 Apr 86

[Text] New York April 15 TASS -- At the request of the Libyan Government, the United Nations Security Council was urgently convened today to discuss the United States piratic aggression against Libya.

Soviet Citizens Unhurt in Raid

LD152236 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 15 Apr 86

[Text] According to a report from Tripoli, the staff of the Soviet Embassy in Libya and Soviet specialists working in that country did not suffer any casualties by sheer luck.

Correspondent's Report

LD152216 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1317 GMT 15 Apr 86

[Text] Tripoli, 15 Apr (TASS) -- TASS correspondent Georgiy Shelenkov reports: The population of the Libyan capital, numbering almost 1 million, were peacefully asleep when, at exactly 0200, the silence was broken by deafening explosions, both far away and very near, and the piercing scream of aircraft. The sky was lit up with the tracks of many rockets. Of course, the oncoming attack was known about, as the White House had made no attempt to conceal its warlike plans. Nonetheless, such acts of banditry always come as a surprise, especially for civilians who have not heard bombs exploding for over 40 years.

The first raid lasted 10 minutes, which seemed immensely long... The city, which was immediately plunged into impenetrable darkness, did not go back to sleep that night. Half-dressed people, who had still not fully taken in the horror of what had happened, ran into the streets. Vehicles rushed through the streets, lighting their paths with occasional flashes of their headlights. Nevertheless, there was no panic, although the inhabitants of Tripoli now understand very well what that terrible rumble means. An hour passed, and another. The first burst of activity had time to die down; then it started all over again. Somewhere near the TASS office, a deafening, dry blast rang out. Again the sky was bright with rocket fire.

The same night, Western radio stations reported that the raid on the Libyan capital was carried out on the personal instructions of Reagan, who stated at the same time that meticulous aim was taken at the targets in order, supposedly, to "avoid civilian casualties." The results of this "careful aim" could be seen here in the morning, although the sites of the bomb and rocket strikes were cordoned off. Rescue work was under way, the dead were being brought out, and the injured were receiving treatment among the ruins. One could judge the "accuracy" of the U.S. attackers even by the state of the adjacent areas: Only a roofless shell remained of a 2-story villa in a quiet side street, only a few paces from Ibn Ashur, one of the capital's main streets. Neighboring houses displayed smashed windows and jaggedly torn wooden venetian blinds. Nearby stood shattered, windowless cars. In their piratical fervor, the Americans struck the French Embassy, which suffered considerable damage.

A car stopped by a villa opposite the Soviet embassy, screeching its brakes. The young man who leaped out of it despairingly repeated to his relatives who had spilled out onto the balcony just two phrases: "They are not there any more! They are all under the rubble, all of them!"

After the first raid, Libyan radio reported that dozens of innocent inhabitants had perished, that members of the family of M. al-Qadhafi, leader of the Libyan revolution, had been injured and his residence was struck by a precision hit. You can now see armed people on the streets of the town. Appeals for calm and vigilance are being broadcast on the radio. The inhabitants are advised not to gather in large groups, in order to reduce the number of victims in the case of new bombings. Yet life in the town is going on in the normal way: Establishments and shops opened in the morning, the children went to school.

Now the Libyans are asking themselves the question: "What next?" After all, the transatlantic initiator of this flagrant act of state terrorism has threatened without beating about the bush that "if necessary," everything will be repeated from the beginning, a blatant, insolent attempt to frighten the Libyan people, to break their will. But Reagan gains nothing from this venture. The people of the Jamahiriya -- and this was said to me by every passerby with whom I talked this morning on the streets of Tripoli -- are filled with a resolve to defend their freedom and independence. The new, bloody action by the U.S. military clique will become simply one more page in the black book of crimes committed by U.S. imperialism against mankind.

Damage in Tripoli

LD151626 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1445 GMT 15 Apr 86

[From "The World Today" program presented by Valeriy Korzin]

[Text] All the same, they have brought themselves to this, despite public opinion, despite the fact that many states voiced serious warnings, and finally, despite the fact that there is no substantial proof of Libya's complicity in terrorist acts.

U.S. aircraft have made an air strike against its territory. Having taken off from U.S. Air Force bases in Britain and from aircraft carriers lying off Libya's shores -- by the way, on President Reagan's personal orders -- the bombers dropped their lethal cargo on the residential districts of the Libyan capital. There are numerous casualties among Tripoli's civilian population. Members of Mu'ammār al-Qadhafi's family have been injured. The French Embassy and, as a few agencies report, the embassies of Iran and Switzerland found themselves in the bombing zone. It is difficult to find words in order to fully describe this act of piracy and undisguised banditism.

Here you can see where true terrorism resides -- not a crime by some individual criminal who takes a hidden bomb in his briefcase, but state terrorism shrouded in the uniform of state policy and backed by newspaper hullabaloo and addresses by state figures. It is cynical and brutal, as an attack by someone strong on someone weak is always cynical and brutal. Libya's population is only slightly over 3 million, only 3 million. It is a developing country. These 3 million do not want to submit to U.S. diktat. They are like a bone in the throat of U.S. imperialism. It is precisely for this reason that the command to take off was given to the U.S. bombers.

Raid Described

LD152044 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 15 Apr 86

[Report by correspondent Parkhomenko; from the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] Last night, a group of U.S. F-111 bombers, based at military air bases in Great Britain, were put into the air on military alert.

Buzzing the coasts of France and Spain, the air squadron of no less than 35 combat machines, went out into the central Mediterranean Sea area. Here they were joined by escort fighter planes from the aircraft carriers America and Coral Sea. After refueling and reforming, the pilots received an order from the U.S. President to attack Libyan territory. In two waves, the bombers passed over the Libyan capital and the town of Benghazi, dropping heavy bombs and missiles on the heads of the sleeping people. Three hours later, the bombing was repeated. It is reported that three U.S. planes were shot down by the anti-aircraft defences.

The main blow was directed at the residence of the leader of the Libyan revolution, Al-Qadhdhafi, at port installations and military targets. However, it was the residential areas which suffered most. There are killed and injured among the inhabitants. Dozens of houses have been destroyed, and damage has been done to the buildings of the French Embassy and the missions of certain other countries. Our country's embassy was unharmed and, by lucky chance, no Soviet person was injured. Rescue work continued into the morning. Volunteers pulled injured people and the bodies of the dead from the ruins. The radio is broadcasting appeals for calm, vigilance, and the organization of worthy resistance to the aggressor.

Libyan People's Bureau Statement

LD152139 Moscow TASS in English 1709 GMT 15 Apr 86

[Text] Tripoli April 15 TASS -- TASS correspondent Georgiy Shelenkov reports: The People's Bureau for External Relations of Libya has qualified the U.S. barbarous aggression against Libyan Jamahiriyah, which led to deaths of dozens of civilians as an outright act of state terrorism. The bandit attack by the American military on peaceable quarters of Libya's capital shows that the White House exceeded the limits of elementary international law norms, grossly flouting all moral principles, says the statement of the People's Bureau for External Relations of Libya. The aggression was staged with full support and participation of a number of West European countries, above all Britain.

The People's Bureau for External Relations of Libya has called upon all Arab and Muslim nations to rise up to repel the American aggression which is levelled against all Arabs, and to declare political and economic boycott of the USA. Libyan Jamahiriyah, it is stressed in the statement, declares to the United States and all who are behind it, that it is firmly determined to put up resistance until an end be put to the aggression and its organisers are punished.

Search for Missing F-111

LD160551 Moscow TASS in English 0545 GMT 16 Apr 86

[Text] Washington April 16 TASS -- According to an official Pentagon spokesman, American carrier-based planes yesterday were intensively searching for an F-111 bomber in the area of Tripoli, that was unaccounted for following the U.S. air raid on Libya. The spokesman said there were no signs so far that the crew were still alive.

He confirmed that U.S. Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger was actively and directly involved in planning the air strike and selecting the targets. The Pentagon spokesman pointed out that the decision to use F-111 bombers in the raid was prompted by the U.S. striving to hit simultaneously all the targets planned.

PLO Envoy Urges Arab Support

LD151329 Moscow TASS in English 1041 GMT 15 Apr 86

[Text] Moscow April 15 TASS -- The United States started overt military operations against the Arab countries, choosing Libya, the country that adheres to a firm anti-imperialist position on the issue of Middle East settlement, as its first target, Rami al-Sha'ir, charged d'affaires of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) in the U.S.S.R. said at a news conference today. The Palestinian diplomat urged all political and public figures in Arab countries and the entire Mediterranean region to side with the Libyan Jamahiriya and take measures to put an end to Washington's military provocations against sovereign Libya. The policy of state terrorism pursued by the American Administration, Rami al-Sha'ir went on to say, is undermining efforts to lessen international tensions.

The PLO representative condemned the actions of the White House which had not only failed to respond to the Soviet Union's proposal on turning the Mediterranean into a zone of stable peace and cooperation, but had also launched aggressive actions that jeopardized security in the region and the world over.

Arab Communist Parties' Remarks

LD152154 Moscow TASS in English 1555 GMT 15 Apr 86

[Text] Damascus April 15 TASS -- The U.S. attack on Libyan Jamahiriya is an aggression against all Arab nations and the Arab national liberation movement, a prelude to a new broad-scale war venture in the Middle East, says a statement of communist and workers parties of the Arab east. The aim of that barbarous action is to make Arab states and peoples, fighting for freedom independence and social progress, to capitulate to American-Israeli diktat.

Gratitude for Soviet Support

LD152324 Moscow TASS in English 0312 GMT 15 Apr 86

[Text] New York April 16 TASS -- TASS correspondent Vyacheslav Chernyshev reports: On behalf of the Libyan people who fell victim to the U.S. bandit aggression, Rajab al-Zaruq, Libya's ambassador at the U.N., has expressed profound gratitude to the Soviet Union for solidarity and support for his country. Rajab al-Zaruq said Tuesday [15 April] in a TASS interview that the Libyan people highly appreciated the statement of the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev and the statement of the Soviet Government which would become a factor of the consolidation of moral endurance of the Libyan people, of their resolve to worthily repulse the U.S. aggression.

The Libyan ambassador said that the policy of the Soviet leadership was of principled nature and was invariably aimed at the consolidation of the principles recorded in the U.N. Charter and norms of international law in whose complete implementation all the Arab nations were interested.

This policy firmly counters the U.S. imperialist approach to all the developing countries, especially small ones, as well as the policy of neoglobalism aimed at extending U.S. domination to the whole world.

The assessment made by Mikhail Gorbachev of the choice faced today by the world community in general, by the U.N., primarily Western Europe and NATO member countries -- namely, the fact that the passivity, connivance and complicity in such actions as the aggression against Libya are fraught with a disarray of international relations with unpredictable consequences -- are of special importance to Libya. Rajab al-Zaruq stressed that the voice of reason and their own national interests forced European countries to refuse to yield to the U.S. diktat.

According to R. al-Zaruq, Washington refused to heed the warnings of the Soviet leadership that its policy of violation of the norms of international law and the U.N. Charter could not but affect the Soviet-American relations. As a result of it, the U.S. Administration itself made it impossible at the present stage the planned meeting on the level of foreign ministries of the two countries. R. al-Zaruq said that Libya highly appreciated this stand.

Libyan People's Bureau Briefings

LD161109 Moscow TASS in English 0927 GMT 16 Apr 86

[Text] Tripoli April 16 TASS -- The JANA news agency reports that heads of the diplomatic missions accredited in the Libyan Jamahiriyah were invited to the People's Bureau for External Relations where they were informed of the results of the U.S. aggression against sovereign Libya.

According to a representative of the bureau, this bandit act of the U.S. aggressions which claimed the lives of many people, Libyans and foreigners alike, was directed against peace and security of the whole of the Mediterranean region and the Arab world, and created a serious threat to peace on earth. By implementing this act of piracy, Washington seeks to physically destroy the Libyan people and their progressive transformation which is a manifestation of state terrorism.

The Libyan people stand for the establishment of durable peace in the region and the world in general and urge all the freedom-loving forces of the planet to take necessary measures for putting an end to the aggression. The representative of the People's Bureau for External Relations pointed out that the people of Jamahiriyah sought to maintain normal relations with all the countries and peoples of the world. However, it will depend on the position of this or that country with regard to the U.S. aggression.

Ambassadors of Arab countries were invited separately to the bureau. It was pointed out to them that it was necessary to take concrete steps for repulsing the U.S. aggression -- to break political relations with the U.S., to discontinue oil deliveries to the U.S., to withdraw Arab assets from American banks and to denounce agreements with the U.S. Similar actions should be taken also against the Western countries, for example Britain, which supported the aggression. The representative of the bureau suggested the convocation of an emergency session of foreign and defense ministers of Arab countries for working out concrete ways of repulsing the U.S. aggression.

CUBAN GOVERNMENT CONDEMNS U.S. RAID ON LIBYA

LD160340 Moscow TASS in English 0325 GMT 16 Apr 86

[Text] Havana April 16 TASS -- The Government of Cuba has described the pirate raid of Libya staged by the U.S. as a gross disrespect for the basic norms of international law and principles of peaceful coexistence among countries. A statement of the Cuban Government circulated here Tuesday emphatically rejects the clumsy attempts of President Reagan to justify this dirty act by reference to the provisions of the U.N. Charter concerning the right to self-defense.

By his actions President Reagan confirmed once again that it is he who is the initiator of the policy of state terrorism which found its expression in the support for Somozista gangs and in Washington's attitude to developments in South Africa.

The Cuban Government strongly denounces the U.S. aggression against Libya and voices its solidarity with the people of that country.

USSR CONGRATULATES CUBAN PARTY ON 25TH ANNIVERSARY

LD151423 Moscow TASS in English 1352 GMT 15 Apr 86

[quotation marks as received]

[Text] Moscow April 15 TASS -- The CPSU Central Committee has cordially congratulated the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba with the 25th anniversary of the foundation of the party.

"The time that has passed since the historic days of April 1961," said the message, out today, "convincingly proved the correctness of the political course of the Communist Party of Cuba which is confidently in charge of the process of establishing the Western Hemisphere's first socialist society.

Cuba's undeniable achievements in developing economy and culture and resolving major social problems, and the growth of the Republic's international prestige are inseparably linked with the activity of the Cuban people's political vanguard.

"In the present-day conditions of keen confrontation between the forces of progress and reaction," the message said, "the Soviet Union and the Republic of Cuba, together with the other socialist countries and all peace-loving forces on earth favour the prevention of the threat of nuclear war and press for a turn for the better in international relations.

Our parties and states are unanimous in their aspiration to oppose the imperialist policy of blackmail and aggression. Heightening international tension and suppressing the liberation struggle of the peoples."

The CPSU Central Committee wished the Cuban Communists new successes in building socialism, in strengthening the country's defence capability and in the joint struggle for peace and peoples' well-being.